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Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. August 1906.

CONFIDENTIAL.

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PART 30.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF MOROCCO.

42

April to June 1906.

[PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON]

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122	Sir M. de Bunsen ..	90	19,	Morocco State Bank. Meeting place of Delegates. Transmits copy of note accepting German proposal (see No. 85). The Minister for Foreign Affairs is displeased at French attempt to get meeting place changed to Paris, as it exposed them to a check at the hands of Germany, who will certainly refuse her consent (see Nos. 114 and 119) ..	66
123	„ „ ..	54 Tel. Confidential	23,	Morocco State Bank. French Ambassador wishes French Delegate to be proposed as President, and that Mr. Cartwright should propose adjournment of Special Committee and reassembly at Paris. Considers that this would provoke conflict with Germany. German Ambassador considers that to draw up Statutes in Paris would look like departure from international principle which was clearly asserted by Conference in the bank question (see No. 122)	68
124	Mr. Lowther ..	17 Tel.	23,	Capture of British vessel "Consuelo" by Valiente. Crew released, but ransom is demanded for vessel and cargo. Moorish Commissioner admits the liability of his Government if the efforts to obtain the release of the vessel fail (see No. 115) ..	68
125	Sir E. Egerton ..	89 Very Conf.	21,	Morocco State Bank. German Chargé d'Affaires has requested Italy's support, and, if she should ever wish to dispose of her share, to undertake to do so to Germany. This request has been refused (see also No. 65)	68
126	Sir M. de Bunsen ..	91 Confidential	21,	Morocco State Bank. Conversation with Minister for Foreign Affairs on the issue of invitations to the Delegates to assemble at Madrid. He expressed regret at the hasty action of the Duke of Almodovar (see No. 123)	69
127	„ „ ..	55 Tel.	24,	Morocco State Bank. Germany will probably not oppose the meeting of the Delegates being transferred to Paris (see No. 123) ..	70

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
128	To Sir M. de Bunsen..	31 Tel.	May 24, 1906	Morocco State Bank. Meeting of Delegates. He should support the French in their endeavour to get the subsequent meetings held at Paris (see No. 127)	70
129	To Mr. Lowther ..	8 Tel.	24,	Capture of "Consuelo." Informs of instructions sent to Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar. To give him every assistance (see No. 124)..	70
130	Sir F. Villiers ..	7 Tel.	25,	Morocco State Bank. Instructions to Portuguese Delegate. Is supporting proposals which French Chargé d'Affaires is making (see No. 72)	71
131	Sir M. de Bunsen ..	56 Tel.	25,	Morocco State Bank. Meeting of Delegates. Informs of arrangements made by Mr. Cartwright to have a motion brought for the transference of future meetings to Paris. The Spanish President will propose that the Presidency be offered to the Governor of the Bank of France (see No. 123) ..	71
132	Mr. Lowther ..	18 Tel.	25,	Capture of "Consuelo." Thinks that the best course would be to take her in tow. Sid Torres raised no objection on being given a hint to that effect (see No. 129)	71
133	„ „ ..	86	14,	M. Régis incident. Disputes in the "Conseil Sanitaire" between the Austrian and German Representatives on the one hand and the French, supported by the other Powers, on the other as to the course to be pursued (see No. 44)	71
134	„ „ ..	87	16,	Pretender. Has been more active lately, and defeated loyal tribes in north-east Morocco. The Sultan's position is a most difficult one (see No. 77)	73
135	„ „ ..	88	17,	Internal affairs of Morocco. French Vice-Consul insulted by soldiers at Mehedia, but the Governor of Salc has apologized, and the incident is regarded as closed	73
136	„ „ ..	89	17,	French loan to Morocco. Interest has been paid two months before it was due, which is remarkable as trade was very bad last year (see No. 326, Part 29)..	74
137	„ „ ..	90 Confidential	17,	French disregard for the Sultan's susceptibilities. They have tried to replace a Dr. Jaffary, who was attached to their Military Mission to Fez, and in whom the Sultan has confidence. The Sultan has declared that he will not receive his successor	74
138	„ „ ..	91	18,	Morocco Conference. It is thought that Sultan will try and delay the enforcement of the Regulations, but Signor Malmusi should be able to overcome his opposition. The police question appears to be the only one that rouses opposition among the people (see No. 78)	74
139	Sir F. Villiers ..	8 Tel.	25,	Morocco State Bank. The Portuguese Delegate cannot arrive in time for the first meeting. His vote will be exercised by the Delegate of the Bank of France (see No. 130) ..	75

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
140	Sir M. de Bunsen ..	57 Tel.	May 25, 1906	Morocco State Bank. Meeting of Delegates. The German Ambassador now wishes the preliminary sittings to be held at Madrid. It has been decided by Mr. Cartwright and the French Ambassador that the question shall, if necessary, be pressed to a vote (see No. 131)	75
141	„ „ ..	59 Tel.	26,	Morocco State Bank. First meeting of Delegates passed off smoothly. The German Delegate is quite prepared to agree to Paris. The meeting was adjourned to await an official acceptance of Paris from Berlin (see No. 140)	76
142	„ „ ..	60	27,	State Bank of Morocco. The Delegates have unanimously elected the Governor of the Bank of France as their President and decided to meet at the Bank of France on the 30th May (see Nos. 131 and 141) ..	76
143	Mr. Lowther ..	19 Tel.	28,	Capture of the "Consuelo." Valiente has given her up to the Military Governor of Ceuta with a large part of her cargo (see No. 132)	76
144	„ „ ..	20 Tel.	31,	Murder of a French bank employé within 3 miles of Tangier. The French Government will demand "des réparations éclatantes"	77
145	„ „ ..	93	26,	Special Mission to Fez. Signor Malmusi started to-day, accompanied by a staff of eight persons. Their names (see No. 138)..	77
146	„ „ ..	94	26,	Internal affairs. Great preparations are being made to intercept Gundafi's retreat (see No. 77). Muley Hafid, the Sultan's brother, declares that he has no wish to usurp the throne. The famine at Morocco city still continues	77
147	„ „ ..	21 Tel.	June 2,	Moorish lawlessness. A British vessel called "Craighill" is ashore between Ceuta and Tangier, and the crew are being fired on by Moors. Has asked the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar to afford them protection ..	78
148	M. Cambon ..	..	6,	Concession to M. Régis of right to supply drinking water at Tangier. The Makhzen, at the instigation of Germany and Austria, have stopped the work, and when the majority of the Sanitary Council wished to uphold M. Régis, the Austrian Minister, as President, refused to allow any action. Asks for support of His Majesty's Government in making representations to the Austrian Government (see No. 133)	78
149	Mr. Lowther ..	96	May 31,	Murder of French subject, M. Charbonnier, within 3 miles of Tangier. The French Government intend to demand "des réparations éclatantes" (see No. 144) .. .	79
150	„ „ ..	97	June 2,	Anti-German pamphlets. They appear to be produced in Tripoli or Tunis. It is not likely to be the work of French officials ..	79
151	To Sir E. Goschen ..	49	14,	Concession to M. Régis. Instructing him to support the French Ambassador (see No. 148)	80
152	To Mr. Lowther ..	69	14,	Concession to M. Régis (see No. 151). Asks for a report on the constitution and procedure of the Sanitary Council	80

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
153	Mr. Lowther ..	98	June 9, 1906	Signor Malmusi's Mission to Fez. Transmits account of its arrival there by His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez. The reception was extremely slovenly, probably to the dislike of the officials to the object of the Mission (see No. 145)	81
154	„ „ ..	99	9,	Murder of M. Charbonnier. Arrival at Tangier of French war-vessels to enforce demands for reparations (see No. 149) ..	82
155	„ „ ..	100	10,	State of Morocco. Gunda has bribed several tribes to help him to reach his stronghold (see No. 146). Disorder is increasing between Mogador and Fez as the result of disputes between Gunda and the Viceroy	82
156	„ „ ..	101	10,	Signor Malmusi's Mission to Fez. Transmits report by His Majesty's Vice-Consul on his formal reception by the Sultan (see No. 153)	83
157	„ „ ..	102	11,	Murder of M. Charbonnier. Has informed French Minister of his instructions to support him in any demands he might make, and has spoken to Sid Torres on the subject without, however, making the least impression on him (see No 154). The French Minister is again bringing up the case of Bu Amana (see No. 39, Part 29)	84
158	„ „ ..	22 Tel.	19,	Special Mission to Fez. M. Malmusi writes that the Sultan is almost sure to carry out his promise to sign the Algeciras Convention (see Nos. 138 and 156)	85
159	British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society ..		20,	Slavery in Morocco. Cites further instances of public sales, including that of white women and children. States that the Slave Trade is increasing, and asks that the matter may be brought to the attention of the Sultan (see No. 121)	85
160	Mr. Lowther ..	23 Tel.	22,	General Act of Morocco Conference. Sultan has given his unreserved adhesion (see No. 158)	86
161	„ „ ..	103	12,	Valiente family (see No. 143). They have, after repeated efforts, gained the pardon of the Governor of Ceuta, who says that he found it more politic to make friends with them than that the inhabitants of Ceuta should be incessantly harassed	86
162	„ „ ..	104	13,	Liquor traffic. The French, German, and Spanish Ministers and himself have been appointed to draw up Regulations (see No. 93)	87
163	„ „ ..	106	14,	Sale of slaves. On receipt of No. 121 he addressed a note to the French Minister on the subject. It was decided that M. Malmusi should be asked to lay the matter before the Sultan. Transmits copy of note to him by M. Saint-René Taillandier (see No. 159)	87
164	„ „ ..	107	15,	Concession to M. Régis (see No. 152). Transmits copy of note to Sid Torres, the wording of which was discussed for four months by the Sanitary Council	88
165	„ „ ..	109	16,	Special Mission to Fez. The Sultan says that he will sign the General Act. Transmits report communicated to His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez by M. Malmusi of his first business audience with the Sultan (see No. 160)	89

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
166	Sir E. Goschen ..	75	June 20, 1906	Concession to M. Régis. Has acted on No. 151. Has received a message to the effect that the incident is satisfactorily settled (see No. 164)	90
167	Count de Bosdari ..	..	22,	Ratification of the General Act of the Morocco Conference by the Sultan. A despatch has been received at Rome reporting it (see No. 165)	91

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Morocco.

PART 30.

[11151] No. 1.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 1.)

(No. 132.) *Algeciras, April* 1, 1906.
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

POLICE. The Dutch Delegate formally announced that his Government did not desire that Inspector-General should be of Dutch nationality. Conference agreed without discussion to France and Spain having conjointly charge of police at Tangier and Casa Blanca, France alone at Mogador, Saffi, Mazagan, and Rabat, and Spain alone at Tetuan and Laraiche.

[11152] No. 2.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 1.)

(No. 133.) *Algeciras, April* 1, 1906.
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

THE Bank question was arranged by France agreeing to accept two extra shares in allotment of capital in return for her ceding to Bank the preference rights the French Syndicate possessed by loan of 1904. France had originally asked for four shares.

[11153] No. 3.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 1.)

(No. 134.) *Algeciras, April* 1, 1906.
(Telegraphic.) P.

AT the sitting of the Conference yesterday all questions were terminated, and we hope to sign the Convention on Saturday, this week being devoted to drawing up the Articles.

As there was not time to obtain your sanction, I agreed to the regulations dealing with public works, control of Customs, and attributions of bank censors, and am sending you copies of them by post. I hope those relating to the two last will meet with your approval, as they were originated by me.

At the next sitting of the Conference I will support the United States' Delegate on the subject of the Jews, and I will mention the question of slavery.

In order that the Convention may be signed before Holy Week, matters are being hastily pushed on. I should have preferred more time, but I do not think this desire is shared by any of my colleagues, and it may be prudent to bring the matter to a conclusion with the least possible delay.

Would you trust to me to see that the Articles of the Convention are satisfactory, or would you like me to telegraph the text of the principal Articles as they are drawn up?

[11154] No. 4.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 1.)

(No. 135.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 1, 1906.*

IT would, I fear, be impossible to persuade the Conference to guarantee that one of the three Delegates from the Corps Diplomatique on the Board of Adjudication should be British, as suggested in your telegram No. 69 of the 31st ultimo. They would, I think, consider that the Corps Diplomatique should have the selection left in their hands.

I regret that I did not endeavour to provide with certainty for a British Delegate at an earlier stage, though I do not think it likely that I should have succeeded. But I hope that I shall be able to induce the Conference to agree that the number of Delegates should be increased to five, which would practically insure one member being British.

[11288] No. 5.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 57.)
Sir, *Madrid, March 27, 1906.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch No. 39 of the 21st instant, informing me that the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires had expressed to you the strong objections entertained by his Government to the proposal of the United States for the policing of the several ports of Morocco under French and Spanish instructors jointly.

It is evident that any proposed settlement conflicting with the Spanish ideal of securing for the coast-line from Ceuta eastwards the same exclusive right of supervision as France has claimed, and probably secured, in respect of the portion of Morocco adjoining her Algerian frontier, was bound to be resisted by this Government.

An article in to-day's "Liberal" urges that, if indeed the Conference should result in the establishment of an all-Spanish zone along the coast in question, no effort should be spared to develop the resources of Ceuta, Melilla, and Alhucemas, to connect Ceuta by a good road with Tetuan, and to turn Tetuan into a great centre for the spreading of Spanish civilization throughout Northern Morocco.

The American scheme, by introducing a French element into Tetuan, seemed likely to dispel this dream of Spanish expansion.

West of Ceuta, however, the aspect of the question presents itself in rather a different light to Spanish eyes. Though, no doubt, a dual Franco-Spanish police in each of the open ports from Tangier westwards might easily give rise to friction between the French and Spanish officers, Señor Moret, President of the Council, assured me, in the course of conversation, on the 23rd instant, that he would greatly prefer that France should be associated with Spain in the policing of Tangier, rather than that Spain should undertake this responsible task singlehanded. His Excellency told me that the Marquis del Muni, Spanish Ambassador at Paris, shared his views on this point, and his hopes that a modification of the American proposal, limiting its operation to Tangier and one other port, might be accepted by the Conference.

In reply to a question, I told Señor Moret that you had not viewed the American proposal as a whole with favour, and that I thought there was a good deal to be said against it, even in a modified form, though no doubt, if the French Government now accepted it with modifications, you would reconsider the matter.

His Excellency had been led by the Marquis del Muni to think that M. Bourgeois might accept the scheme in its latest form.

I had the honour to report the upshot of Señor Moret's remarks in my telegram No. 39 of the 23rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[11251] No. 6.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 139.)
Sir, *Paris, March 31, 1906.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an article from the "Temps" of this evening, which sums up the situation in which a settlement at Algeciras will leave France and Germany.

The steps which led up to the acceptance of the Conference are enumerated: the sudden change from the optimistic tone of Prince Bülow's speeches to the Emperor's appearance at Tangier; the obstinate refusal to treat with M. Delcassé between the 13th April and the 6th June, 1905; the determined opposition made to M. Rouvier's offers of negotiation without going into a Conference; the unjustifiable proceedings of Count Tattenbach at Fez; and, finally, the perpetual disputes and aggressive "bluff" on the part of the German Delegates at Algeciras, who for two months kept declaring a solution inadmissible which in the third month they accepted. These proceedings, the article declares, have made a great impression on French opinion. "Quand on sort d'une maladie d'un an, la convalescence ne peut être immédiate. La confiance que la France avait marquée à l'Allemagne au mois de Juin 1905 a été mise à une rude épreuve. Il faut lui laisser le temps de renaître et lui en fournir les motifs."

At the same time the article advocates that the sponge should be passed over the hostility which showed itself in the course of the diplomatic struggle which has just ended; the task of French diplomacy is to restore to Franco-German relations that normal and correct character the absence of which during the last year has been so marked.

The article concludes by quoting some remarks of Prince Bülow made four years ago:—

"L'Europe est une maison où nous sommes les uns et les autres installés, suivant l'heure et le lieu, plus ou moins commodément. Mais notre intérêt commun est d'y affermir notre établissement et de consolider l'édifice qui nous offre à tous un abri."

This should be the object, the article says, of French and German statesmen in the period following upon the close of the Algeciras Conference.

The articles in the "Temps" on the Moroccan question are known to reflect the views held at the Quai d'Orsay, and the feeling of relief at the prospect of an arrangement at Algeciras, by which neither party can be said to be either "vainqueur ou vaincu," and by which an irritating question loses its acute phase, has been generally noticeable in the press utterances of the past few days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Extract from the "Temps" of April 1, 1906.

LES RELATIONS FRANCO-ALLEMANDES.

NOUS avons hier indiqué comment s'établit pour la France et l'Allemagne le bilan de la Conférence; comment la première a obtenu sur tous les points importants la reconnaissance de ses intérêts spéciaux; comment la seconde est libérée de la crainte, si souvent affichée par elle, qu'on voulût à Paris l'exclure des négociations relatives au Maroc ou faire de ce pays, sous le Protectorat Français, une terre fermée à la concurrence économique. Ce sont là des résultats appréciables. Ce ne sont pas cependant les seuls qui comptent; et il y a lieu d'examiner ce que sont et ce que peuvent être, au lendemain de cette crise, les relations Franco-Allemandes.

Si l'on ne considérait que le fond des choses, le caractère acceptable des solutions intervenues permettrait d'affirmer qu'il ne reste, dans l'affaire du Maroc telle qu'elle se présente aujourd'hui, aucune cause de trouble pour les rapports à venir des deux peuples qu'elle vient d'opposer l'un à autre. En effet, les intérêts légitimes et la dignité de chacun sont absolument sauvegardés. Malheureusement, on ne peut, en pareille matière, séparer la forme du fond. Il y a, comme on dit, la manière; et

cette manière a été, du côté Allemand, si peu plaisante et si peu claire ; elle a provoqué dans notre pays tant de surprises amères et d'irritantes inquiétudes que, de toute évidence, le souvenir de ces mois difficiles pèse encore sur les esprits. Ce n'est plus le lieu de récriminer ; et notre seul dessein est d'expliquer, non de protester ; mais comment oublier les fâcheux procédés dont nous avons été l'objet ; le brusque passage—sans l'avertissement préalable que le Prince Radolin aurait dû être chargé de formuler—des discours optimistes du Chancelier en 1904 au coup de théâtre de Tanger ; le refus obstiné de répondre à M. Delcassé entre le 13 Avril et le 6 Juin, 1905 ; l'intransigeance opposée aux offres de M. Rouvier, qui demandait qu'on négociât sans aller à la Conférence ; les injustifiables opérations du Comte Tattenbach à Fez ; ses perpétuelles chicanes à la Conférence même et le "bluff" agressif par lequel les Délégués Allemands déclarèrent inadmissibles deux mois durant les solutions que, le troisième, ils devaient finir par accepter ? L'opinion Française, qu'on le veuille ou non, est encore sous cette impression. Quand on sort d'une maladie d'un an, la convalescence ne peut être immédiate. La confiance que la France avait marquée à l'Allemagne au mois de Juin de 1905 a été mise à une rude épreuve. Il faut lui laisser le temps de renaître et lui en fournir les motifs.

Il convient cependant, si naturelles que soient certaines impressions, de les soumettre au joug de la raison. Nous venons de vivre une période de lutte diplomatique. Cette lutte, pour être jusqu'au bout demeurée pacifique, n'en a pas moins été très vive. On a échangé des arguments au lieu d'échanger des coups ; mais, on l'a fait avec l'ardeur que justifiait, surtout de la part de la France, l'importance des intérêts en cause. Il en est, cependant, des combats des diplomates comme de ceux des armées. Une heure vient où la paix succédant à la guerre crée pour chacun des devoirs nouveaux. Ces devoirs, dont la clôture de la Conférence va d'ici peu marquer le début, nous les acceptons, quant à nous, sans arrière-pensée. L'énergie quotidienne, et, à notre avis, indispensable, avec laquelle depuis deux mois nous avons dans ce journal défendu pied à pied la cause Française, nous donne, croyons-nous, le droit de dire qu'arrivés au but, nous saurons oublier les amertumes de la route, et qu'ayant par une vigoureuse résistance, dont nous n'avons rien à regretter, obtenu les résultats que réclamaient tout à la fois notre honneur et notre intérêt, la France peut passer l'éponge sur les actes hostiles dont une entente équitable efface les conséquences. Nous espérons que le Gouvernement Allemand, que la presse et le peuple Allemands seront capables du même effort, moins difficile d'ailleurs pour eux que pour nous. Nous estimons en tout cas que c'est une obligation de loyauté de ne point porter dans la paix la mentalité de la bataille, et que, si compréhensibles que soient après douze mois de lutte certains ressentiments, le bien du pays veut qu'on en fasse abstraction pour juger les actes du lendemain. Nous avons cru toujours à la possibilité de l'entente. Nous avons blâmé l'Allemagne d'en retarder l'établissement. Aujourd'hui que l'accord est acquis, il est le bienvenu, et nous voyons en lui la base désirée d'un régime de calme et de courtoisie.

Telles sont les dispositions dans lesquelles nous envisageons, à l'issue de la Conférence, les relations de l'Allemagne et de la France. Le jour où les Plénipotentiaires des Puissances se sont pour la première fois réunis, nous avons écrit ici même—et on nous pardonnera de le rappeler : "Le rôle des négociateurs d'Algésiras est de faire d'une question critique une question normale." Ce sont les termes mêmes qui devraient désormais définir les rapports Franco-Allemands. Ces rapports, tels qu'ils se sont développés depuis un peu plus d'un an, n'étaient ni normaux, ni corrects. Il faut et il suffit qu'ils le deviennent à l'avenir ; qu'ils évitent les conflits bruyants, suite des silences prolongés ; qu'ils rendent aux diplomates leur rôle naturel d'éclaireurs et de conciliateurs pour que soit réalisé un progrès, dont la sagesse conseille de se contenter. Que la France ait eu, dans ces troubles, la moindre responsabilité, nous le pensons ; mais peu importe. Puisqu'on a débridé la plaie et recousu après avoir taillé, mieux vaut prévenir le retour du mal que de discuter sur sa cause. Comme le disait un jour, il y a quatre ans, le Chancelier de Bülow : "L'Europe est une maison où nous sommes les uns et les autres installés, suivant l'heure et le lieu, plus ou moins commodément ; mais notre intérêt commun est d'y affermir notre établissement et de consolider l'édifice qui nous offre à tous un abri." C'est à rendre habitable l'immeuble où la force des choses les oblige à voisiner que doivent travailler, dans la phase qui commence, les hommes d'État de France et d'Allemagne.

Cette œuvre, si modeste qu'elle semble, suffit aux circonstances présentes. C'est la meilleure conclusion qui puisse être donnée par eux à l'effort pacifique d'Algésiras.

[11153] No. 7.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 70.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 2, 1906.*

I SHARE the regret expressed in your telegram No. 134 of yesterday at the existence of any danger of the final work of drafting and revising being too hastily concluded. It is my earnest wish that the desire of saving a few days' extra labour may not lead to insufficiently considered stipulations being adopted. I trust that as far as you can properly do so, you will counteract any such tendency. I confidently leave it to you to decide. British interests are clearly safeguarded by the Convention ; in particular those questions of commercial importance, and concerning which I have given you special instructions. The text of the Treaty need not be telegraphed.

[11153] No. 8.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 71.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 2, 1906.*

I CONGRATULATE you, in the name of His Majesty's Government, on the approaching conclusion of the Conference. The fact that an Agreement has been reached is, we feel, greatly due to your ability and tact in handling delicate questions, and you have fulfilled our engagements in a wise and consistent way which we highly appreciate.

[11609] No. 9.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 195.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April 2, 1906.*

M. CAMBON took occasion to-day to thank me very cordially for the support which we had given France during the Conference, and he expressed his warm appreciation of the way in which Sir Arthur Nicolson had given it.

I replied that it had been a pleasure to us to be able to give this support to France, and that I was delighted to think that the proceedings of the Conference had resulted in strengthening the "entente."

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[11494] No. 10.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 136.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

IN continuation of my telegram No. 135 of the 1st instant respecting adjudicators, I have obtained the assent of the Conference to an increase from three to five in the number of the Diplomatic Delegates. The text of the Article is being altered accordingly.

[11499] No. 11.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 138.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

THE Conference sat for the last time yesterday, though there will be one more final meeting, probably on the 7th instant, for signing the General Act.

At yesterday's sitting I supported the United States' Delegate's motion expressing the wish that the Sultan should take the good treatment of the Jews in his Empire under his care. I also submitted a resolution that the assembled Delegates should

express the hope that the public sale of slaves would be prohibited, and that slavery would be gradually abolished, and also that the measures which had been taken for effecting an improvement in the prisons would be continued.

The Conference wishes the Italian Minister at Tangier, as doyen of the Diplomatic Body, to proceed to Fez to procure, in the name of the Powers, the Sultan's adhesion to the General Act. This appears to us to be the best course to pursue.

The labours of the Conference are now at an end.

[11502] No. 12.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 139.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

THE Moorish Delegates expressed a wish at yesterday's sitting of the Conference that Article IX of the Madrid Convention, which deals with the subject of protection, should be discussed. I explained that the Conference could not discuss Articles of an existing Convention, and pointed out that the subject was not in the programme. This view met with the concurrence of the Conference, and after some demur the Moorish Delegates stated that they would inform the Sultan of my reply.

[11505] No. 13.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 140.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 11 of the 14th February respecting a revocatory clause, I trust that the following Article, which was adopted yesterday, will meet your views :—

" Tous les Traités, Arrangements, et Conventions des Puissances Signataires avec le Maroc restent en vigueur. Toutefois, il est entendu, qu'en cas de conflit entre leurs dispositions et celles du présent Acte Général, les stipulations de ce dernier prévaudront."

[11500] No. 14.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 142.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *April 3, 1906.*

THE following additional general dispositions were adopted at meeting of Conference yesterday :—

" Article 120. En vue de mettre, s'il y a lieu, sa législation en harmonie avec les engagements contractés par le présent Acte Général, chacune des Puissances Signataires s'oblige à provoquer en ce qui la concerne l'adoption des mesures législatives qui seraient nécessaires.

" Art. 121. Le présent Acte Général sera ratifié suivant les lois constitutionnelles particulières à chaque État ; les ratifications seront déposées à Madrid le plus tôt que faire se pourra, et au plus tard le 31 Décembre, 1906.

" Il sera dressé du dépôt un procès-verbal dont une copie certifiée conforme sera remise aux Puissances Signataires par la voie diplomatique.

" Art. 122. Le présent Acte Général entrera en vigueur le jour où toutes les ratifications auront été déposées, et au plus tard le 31 Décembre, 1906.

" Au cas où les mesures législatives spéciales qui, dans certains pays, seraient nécessaires pour assurer l'application à leurs nationaux résidant au Maroc de quelques-unes des stipulations du présent Acte Général n'auraient pas été adoptées avant la date fixée pour la ratification, ces stipulations ne deviendraient applicables en ce qui les concerne qu'après que les mesures législatives ci-dessus visées auraient été promulguées."

I trust you approve of the above.

[11496] No. 15.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 143.)
(Telegraphic.) *Gibraltar, April 3, 1906.*

FOLLOWING Additional Protocol was adopted at meeting of Conference yesterday :—

" Tenant compte de ce que les Délégués du Maroc ont déclaré ne pas être en mesure pour le moment d'y apposer leurs signatures, l'éloignement ne leur permettant pas d'obtenir à bref délai la réponse de Sa Majesté Chérifienne concernant les points au sujet desquels ils ont cru devoir lui en référer, s'engagent réciproquement, en vertu de leurs mêmes pleins pouvoirs, à unir leurs efforts en vue de la ratification intégrale par Sa Majesté Chérifienne du dit Acte Général, et en vue de la mise en vigueur simultanée des réformes qui y sont prévues, et qui sont solidaires les unes des autres.

" Ils conviennent en conséquence de charger son Excellence M. Malmusi, Ministre d'Italie au Maroc et doyen du Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, de faire les démarches nécessaires à cet effet, en appelant l'attention de Sa Majesté le Sultan sur les grands avantages qui résulteront pour son Empire des stipulations adoptées à la Conférence par l'unanimité des Puissances Signataires.

" L'adhésion donnée par Sa Majesté Chérifienne à l'Acte Général de la Conférence d'Algésiras devra être communiquée, par l'intermédiaire du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Catholique, aux Gouvernements des autres Puissances Signataires. Cette adhésion aura la même force que si les Délégués du Maroc eussent apposé leurs signatures sur l'Acte Général et tiendra lieu de ratification par Sa Majesté Chérifienne."

I trust that the above meets with your approval.

[11519] No. 16.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 144.) *En clair.* *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

I SUBMITTED a resolution to the Conference yesterday that the Delegates should communicate to the Sultan an expression of their earnest hope that His Shereefian Majesty would take into consideration the question of slavery in his Empire, and would adopt such measures as he might deem suitable, with a view to limiting and gradually abolishing the system of slavery, and especially with a view to prohibiting the public sale of slaves in the towns of his Empire.

With the exception of the Moorish Delegates, who stated that the question was not included in the programme, all the Delegates cordially adopted my motion, and it was resolved to make the suggested communication to the Sultan.

[11520] No. 17.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 3.)

(No. 145.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Algeciras, April 3, 1906.*

AT yesterday's sitting of the Conference the President made a statement, which I omitted to mention in my previous telegrams, that it was the desire of the Spanish Government to see a railway constructed in Morocco, running from north to south, and connected with the railway system of Europe, and thus shortening the route to the States of South America. The route is not quite clear to me. The President did not specifically ask us to express an opinion, and the only one who signified his approval of this comprehensive project was the Belgian Delegate, the statement being received by the rest in silence.

[11626] No. 18.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 4.)

(No. 14.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April 4, 1906.*

IN confirmation of recent reports that a demonstration would shortly be made by the Pretender against Fez, information, from what I believe to be an authentic source, has reached Tangier that a force of about 2,300 men has arrived at a place in the Province of Sheraga, at a distance of about eight hours from Fez, having been sent there by the Pretender to collect provisions preparatory to his arrival at the head of a large body of men.

[11701] No. 19.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 198.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April 4, 1906.*

THE French Ambassador came this afternoon to say that he had been instructed by M. Bourgeois to make a communication, which he read to me, thanking us very cordially for the support which we had given to France during the Conference, especially the help which Sir Arthur Nicolson had given, and expressing great appreciation for the co-operation which had resulted from the *entente*.

I shall be glad if you will take an opportunity of thanking M. Bourgeois for this communication, saying how much I appreciate the terms in which it was made; that it has been very satisfactory to us that we worked so cordially together; and that we are very glad to think that co-operation has had the result of strengthening still further the good relations between the two countries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[11639] No. 20.

Sir G. Bonham to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 5.)

(No. 17.)
Sir, *Berne, April 1, 1906.*

SINCE the question of appointing a Swiss Inspector-General in Morocco became a prominent one in connection with the Conference at Algeciras, I have several times alluded to it in conversation with members of the Federal Government. They, however, not having any Representative at Algeciras, are entirely dependent on press telegrams for their information, and have always replied that no suggestion from an official quarter had been made to them.

When, however, it appeared to be decided that Switzerland would be invited to appoint an Inspector-General, I asked M. Bülow, the German Minister, if he knew what course would be pursued. He replied that no definite proposal would be made to the Federal Government until after the Protocol of the Conference had been signed; and as to the officer who would be selected, he could give me no information, saying that General Aoudéoud, who would have been an efficient Inspector, would not be acceptable to Russia on account of his difficulty with General Kuropatkin, which resulted in his recall from Manchuria. There were, however, other German-Swiss officers of strong character who would, he said, be suitable for the post.

There does not, however, appear to be any administrator of the calibre of the late M. Droz, at one time designated for the Governorship of Crete, who is especially marked out for the appointment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

[11641] No. 21.

Sir A. Hardinge to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 5.)

(No. 50.)
Sir, *Brussels, April 3, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the text of the reply given by General d'Alkemade, Minister of War, on behalf of Baron de Favereau, to a question put in the House of Representatives by M. Buisset as to why Belgium was not mentioned at the Algeciras Conference, as well as Holland and Switzerland, as one of the neutral Powers which might furnish the Inspector-General of Police.

The Government's explanation, to the effect that Belgian interests in Morocco are exclusively economic and non-political, served its purpose, but it was really no answer to the question, since the same may be said of those of Switzerland and Holland. Whether the latter Powers were put forward because German influence is believed to be slightly more pronounced at The Hague and at Berne than at the other minor capitals, or whether their selection was fortuitous, was perhaps a matter which the Belgian Government wisely preferred to avoid discussing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Answer to Question put in Belgian House of Representatives.

PAR M. Buisset, au sujet des motifs pour lesquels l'Inspection Supérieure de la Police Marocaine n'a pas été confiée à la Belgique.

Réponse.—Si aucune proposition tendant à attribuer les fonctions d'Inspecteur-Général de la Police du Maroc à l'un de nos nationaux n'a été faite aux Plénipotentiaires Belges à la Conférence d'Algésiras, cette abstention ne peut être interprétée comme l'indice d'appréciations défavorables à l'égard de la Belgique; elle est la conséquence de l'attitude observée par nos Délégués à la Conférence.

Le Gouvernement n'avait pas à prendre l'initiative d'une demande, et il a jugé que ses Délégués ne devaient faire aucune démarche en ce sens.

Au Maroc, après la Conférence, notre action devra se borner, comme auparavant, à la défense de nos intérêts économiques.

Pour mieux assurer le développement de ces intérêts, qui ne sont pas sans importance, et conformément à la ligne de conduite suivie à la Conférence même, le Gouvernement continuera à s'abstenir de toute ingérence dans les questions politiques qui pourraient surgir dans ce pays. Il pourrait être amené à intervenir dans certaines de ces questions, si l'Inspection-Générale de la Police était confiée à un Belge.

[11701] No. 22.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 5.)

(No. 145.)
Sir, *Paris, April 4, 1906.*

I SAW the Minister for Foreign Affairs to-day, and he told me that he had instructed the French Ambassador, and he requested me to convey to you the grateful thanks of himself and the French Government for the cordial and valuable support and co-operation rendered to them by His Majesty's Government during the discussions by the Algeciras Conference of the questions relating to Morocco, which had been referred to it.

M. Bourgeois said that, considering the position in which the Morocco question stood when the Conference assembled, he thought that the results arrived at were as satisfactory as could well be expected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[11898] No. 23.

Messrs. Montagu and Co. to Sir E. Gorst.—(Received April 6.)

Dear Sir, 60, *Old Broad Street, London, April* 5, 1906.

NOT wishing to trouble Sir Edward Grey with a personal matter, we venture to ask your friendly intervention with regard to our firm being interested in the financial arrangements in connection with the Morocco Bank.

A member of our firm had an interview with Sir Eric Barrington on the subject some time ago. We would recall that, at Sir Ernest Cassel's request, our firm and Messrs. Stern Brothers devoted a considerable amount of time and attention to the proposed loan to Morocco by this country, and eventually we signed a contract in conjunction with Messrs. Stern, undertaking to provide such loan. Owing to the subsequent Anglo-French *entente*, this loan project was abandoned.

Sir Ernest Cassel is away travelling on the Continent, so we address this to you in the hope that we may be interested in the new project, so that not only we may be recouped for our time and expenses, but may be enabled by the relations thus established to be in a position to promote British interests and trade in Morocco.

We are, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL MONTAGU AND CO.

[11904] No. 24.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 6.)

(No. 15.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 6, 1906.

I AM informed by a Frenchman, representing himself as a Director of the Company referred to in my despatch No. 29 of the 18th February, that he will have to apply to this Legation for assistance in regard to the proposed contract, which he states that the Moorish Government have approved.

Would you wish me to give him the support of this Legation?

[11913] No. 25.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 55.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 26, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, reporting an attempt made by the Zair tribe to enter Rabat for the purpose of carrying off the Governor, his Secretary, and Chamberlain. Mr. Vice-Consul Neroutsos is of opinion that the attempt will probably be renewed, and that the tribesmen may succeed in effecting an entrance into the town.

Reports of unrest also reach me from the southern district, Mr. Vice-Consul Madden informing me that there have been very many cases of cattle-lifting with violence at nights in the country districts, especially in Shiedma and in Nekhaffa, nothing in the way of live-stock or grain stores being safe unless guarded by armed men.

The whole of the south appears to be in an unsettled state, most provinces having roving bands of robbers, their raids giving rise to intertribal fighting.

Distress is general, and a serious famine is feared. Should there be good rains within the next fortnight prospects would be slightly improved, but they would be too late to save most of the crops.

In the northern districts, on the other hand, the harvest prospects are much more promising.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 25.

Consul Maclean to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 65.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, March* 24, 1906.

UNDER date of the 20th instant Mr. Vice-Consul Neroutsos writes to inform me that early in the morning about 500 Zair tribesmen made an attempt to enter the town of Rabat, but were repulsed by rifle fire. Mr. Neroutsos states that the Zair desire to get hold of the Governor, his scribe, and "Meshowri" named Hadj Mohammed-el-Fasi, and the money paid for the release of fellow tribesmen who had been imprisoned by Shereefian orders.

Mr. Neroutsos states that the visit from the Zair is sure to be repeated, and it may happen that eventually they will succeed in getting into the town, as its area is too large to defend, and the Governor has sold to the Arabs most of the rifles which were intended for defence.

According to my information nothing serious has occurred, and I think the native inhabitants of Rabat are numerous enough to defend their houses against attacks from the tribes.

Mr. Neroutsos does not suggest that the European residents in Rabat are in any danger.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

[11914] No. 26.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 56. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 27, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida reporting good rains in the southern districts, and a consequent great improvement in the agricultural prospects.

With regard to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Maclean's despatch, I have received confirmation that the girls and children referred to have reached Tangier. I may mention that in famine years it is not unusual for the poor to sell their children as slaves, thus saving both their children and themselves from starvation, as the latter are sure to be properly fed by their purchasers, while the parents are able to procure food with the money they receive.

With regard to orders which were sent at my instigation by the Makhzen to purchase locust eggs, I am informed that these have produced a very good effect, and the fact of their issue has reminded the people that there still exists a Sultan of which they had had but little practical demonstration latterly.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Consul Maclean to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 67.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, March* 26, 1906.

SINCE writing my despatch No. 66 of the 24th instant, reporting to you the general news of the district, the barometer has fallen lower than I have ever seen it at Dar-al-Baida, and during the last twenty-four hours heavy showers of rain have fallen, the rain gauge registering 1·18 inches.

I imagine that this change in the weather is general throughout the agricultural districts, and it will save the country from famine, will enable maize to be planted, and save some of the crops which were despaired of.

Swarms of locusts have been swept out to sea by the wind, but they have already worked havoc in some of the provinces and have lain their eggs.

Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot reports that the Umana in Saffi are busy purchasing eggs. The tribes in that neighbourhood are fairly quiet. Abda is still paying the balance of "Tertib." Natives are inquiring as to the result of the Conference, and also about Bu Hamara and Raisouli.

No news from other quarters has reached me this morning, except that I hear that there were on board the steam-ship "Armenie," which should reach Tangier this morning, a number of native girls and children from Mazagan who were sold by their relatives and parents on account of the great distress, and were being taken to Tangier to be disposed of. This information requires confirmation before it can be relied on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

[11916] No. 27.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 58.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 31, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 51 and 55 of the 20th and 26th instant, on the subject of the unsettled condition of affairs in the southern part of Morocco, the following information has reached me, but I have not yet been able to verify its accuracy.

It is reported that the most powerful Chieftains of the Houz, namely, Kaïds El-Glawi and Tiggi (of M'tuga), together with the smaller Sheikhs, have entered into a compact to proclaim Moulai Hafid Sultan at an early date. The reason for the postponement of this act is the wavering attitude of Kaïd Aissa, the very influential Governor of the greater part of Abda, who has long been one of the supports of the Makhzen.

Throughout the Houz the intended Proclamation is openly advocated, and awaited with enthusiasm. It is said that if Moulai Hafid should decide to allow himself to be proclaimed he would receive the support of the greater part of southern Morocco, say from the Oum Erbeya to the Sus.

My informant adds that it is quite possible that at the last moment these persons may recoil from plunging the country into civil war, but his opinion is that should the Proclamation take place the seaports of Mazagan, Saffi, and Mogador, would, after some decent delay, follow suit.

I should add that although rumours of this rebellion have reached Mr. Maclean, he does not believe that there is, as yet, any truth in it. My French colleague has received no information on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11924] No. 28.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 85. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March* 27, 1906.

A PLENARY sitting was held yesterday morning of the Conference, to discuss a police project draw up in the Drafting Committee; but as it had not obtained the assent of all the members of that Committee, several articles were reserved, as will be seen from the inclosed copy of the scheme.

When Article 2 came forward for discussion, M. de Radowitz announced that he agreed, on behalf of his Government, to French and Spanish Instructors being appointed at all the eight ports, and this statement, therefore, disposed of the question of a third Power being intrusted with the instruction of the police at Casablanca. There was some conversation as to the wording of the second paragraph of Article 2 and the Drafting Committee was requested to amend it. Article 3 was referred back to the Drafting Committee for redrafting, but the amendments which were desired were of an unimportant character. The same course was taken with regard to Article 4. Article 5 was adopted.

On the discussion being opened on Article 6, the Austro-Hungarian Delegate, Count Welsersheimb, presented two amendments, which will be found in the inclosed paper, entitled Article 6 and Article 7 (additionnel).

In regard to this latter additional Article, I pointed out that we were dealing with a Moorish police force, placed under the sovereign authority of the Sultan, and that if the Diplomatic Body were to exercise control over it we should be superimposing a foreign authority over that of His Sherifian Majesty; and, moreover, that it would in practice be difficult for the foreign Representatives to supervise the working of the police force in the coast towns. M. Révoil supported me in my observations; while the German Delegate announced that the control by the Diplomatic Body constituted, in the view of his Government, a principal and cardinal point of any police project, and that they would find it most difficult to continue the discussion of a project of which it did not form part. The tone of M. de Radowitz was very decided, and left on us all the impression that unless satisfaction were given to the German Government on the subject, the break-down of the Conference would be imminent. The matter was passed over for the moment by the amendments being both referred to the Drafting Committee.

The remaining Articles and the two amendments proposed by Count Welsersheimb were then examined by the Conference, and were also referred to the Drafting Committee.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Project proposed by Drafting Committee respecting Moroccan Police Question.

LA Conférence, appelée par Sa Majesté le Sultan à se prononcer sur les mesures nécessaires pour organiser la police sur des bases nouvelles, déclare que les dispositions à prendre sont les suivantes:—

Article 1er. La police sera placée sous l'autorité souveraine de Sa Majesté le Sultan. Elle sera recrutée par le Maghzen parmi les Musulmans Marocains, commandée par des Caïds Marocains et répartie dans les huit ports ouverts au commerce.

Art. 2. Pour venir en aide au Sultan dans l'organisation de cette police, des officiers et sous-officiers instructeurs Français, des officiers et sous-officiers instructeurs Espagnols seront mis à sa disposition par leurs Gouvernements respectifs, qui soumettront leur désignation et leur affectation à l'agrément de Sa Majesté Chérifienne. Un contrat passé entre le Maghzen et les instructeurs, en conformité du Règlement prévu à l'Article 3, déterminera les conditions de leur engagement et fixera leur solde, qui ne pourra pas être inférieure au double de la solde correspondante au grade de chaque officier ou sous-officier. Il leur sera alloué, en outre, une indemnité de résidence variable suivant les localités. Des logements convenables seront mis à leur disposition par le Maghzen, qui fournira également les montures et les fourrages nécessaires.

Les Gouvernements auxquels ressortissent les instructeurs se réservent cependant le droit de les rappeler et de les remplacer par d'autres, agréés et engagés dans les mêmes conditions.—(Réservé.)

Art. 3. Ces officiers et sous-officiers prêteront pour une durée de cinq années leur concours à l'organisation des Corps de Police Chérifiens. Ils assureront l'instruction et la discipline conformément au Règlement à prendre sur la matière; ils veilleront également à ce que les hommes enrôlés possèdent l'aptitude au service militaire. D'une façon générale, ils devront surveiller l'administration des troupes et contrôler le paiement de la solde qui sera effectué par l'amin, assisté de l'officier instructeur comptable. Ils prêteront aux autorités Marocaines, investies du commandement de ces corps, leur concours technique pour l'exercice de ce commandement.

Les dispositions réglementaires propres à assurer le recrutement, la discipline et l'administration des corps de police seront arrêtées d'un commun accord entre le Ministre de la Guerre Chérifien ou son Délégué, l'Inspecteur, l'Instructeur Français et l'Instructeur Espagnol les plus élevés en grade.

Le Règlement devra être soumis au Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, qui formulera son avis dans le délai d'un mois. Passé ce délai, le Règlement sera mis en application.—(Réservé.)

Art. 4. L'effectif total des troupes de police ne devra pas dépasser 2,500 hommes ni être inférieur à 2,000. Une garnison de 500 à 600 hommes sera placée à Tanger; de 300 à 500 hommes à Casablanca et à Rabat; le reste de l'effectif sera réparti suivant les besoins par groupes, qui ne seront pas inférieurs à 150 hommes. Le nombre des officiers Français et Espagnols sera de 16 à 20; celui des sous-officiers Français et Espagnols de 30 à 40.—(Réservé.)

Art. 5. Les fonds nécessaires à l'entretien et au paiement de la solde des troupes et des officiers et sous-officiers instructeurs seront avancés au Trésor Chérifien par la Banque, dans les limites du Budget annuel attribué à la police, qui ne devra pas dépasser 2,500,000 fr. pour un effectif de 2,500 hommes.

Art. 6. Le fonctionnement de la police fera, pendant la même période de cinq années, l'objet d'une inspection qui sera confiée à un officier supérieur de l'armée Suisse ou Néerlandaise dont le choix sera proposé à l'agrément de Sa Majesté le Sultan par le Gouvernement Fédéral Suisse ou Néerlandais.

L'Inspecteur, sans intervenir dans le commandement ou l'instruction, se rendra compte des résultats obtenus par la police Chérifienne au point de vue du maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité dans les localités où cette police sera installée. Il établira tous les ans, ou plus fréquemment s'il le juge nécessaire, un rapport à ce sujet. Ce rapport, ainsi que toute communication relative à la mission de l'Inspecteur sera adressé au Représentant du Sultan à Tanger et transmis en copie au Corps Diplomatique.—(Réservé.)

Art. 7. En cas de réclamation dont le Corps Diplomatique serait saisi par la Légation intéressée, le Corps Diplomatique pourra demander au Représentant du Sultan à Tanger de faire procéder à une enquête par l'Inspecteur, qui devra établir un rapport. Ce rapport sera transmis au Représentant du Sultan à Tanger et communiqué au Corps Diplomatique.—(Réservé.)

Art. 8. L'Inspecteur, dont la résidence sera fixée à Tanger, recevra un traitement annuel de 25,000 fr. Il lui sera alloué, en outre, une indemnité de 5,000 fr. pour frais de tournées. Le Maghzen mettra à sa disposition une maison convenable et pourvoira à l'entretien de ses chevaux.

Art 9. Les conditions matérielles de son engagement et de son installation, prévues à l'Article 8, feront l'objet d'un contrat passé entre lui et le Maghzen.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Amendments to Drafting Committee's Project proposed by Austro-Hungarian Delegation.

Article 6. Le fonctionnement de la police fera pendant la même période de cinq années l'objet d'une inspection générale, qui sera confiée par Sa Majesté Chérifienne à un officier supérieur de l'Armée Helvétique ou Néerlandaise.

Sa Majesté le Sultan le choisira librement parmi les officiers que lui présentera, au nombre de trois, et avec l'assentiment des Puissances Signataires, ou le Gouvernement de la Suisse ou celui des Pays-Bas. Il aura sa résidence à Tanger.

L'Inspecteur-Général, sans intervenir directement dans le commandement ou l'instruction, se rendra compte des résultats obtenus par la police Chérifienne au point de vue du maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité dans les localités où cette police sera installée.

Dans l'exercice de ses fonctions il visitera, au moins une fois par an, chacune des huit places où les corps de police seront établis. Sur le résultat de ces visites d'inspection annuelles il adressera, par entremise du doyen du Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, un rapport à Sa Majesté le Sultan.

En dehors de ces rapports réguliers il pourra, s'il le juge nécessaire, adresser, par la même voie, au Gouvernement Chérifien des rapports spéciaux sur toute question concernant le fonctionnement de la police.

Art. 7 (Additionnel). Le contrôle du fonctionnement de la police sera exercé par le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger. A cet effet l'Inspecteur-Général lui prêtera son concours.

Art. 8 (Amendement à l'Article 7). En cas de réclamation à l'égard du fonctionnement de la police, la Légation intéressée pourra en saisir le Corps Diplomatique qui, après avoir provoqué une enquête par l'Inspecteur-Général, donnera à l'affaire la suite qu'elle comportera.

Art. . . . (Additionnel). Des officiers Français seront chargés de l'organisation et de l'instruction de la troupe de police à . . . .

Des officiers Espagnols seront chargés de l'organisation et de l'instruction de la troupe de police à . . . .

[11925] No. 29.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 86. Conference. Confidential.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March 27, 1906.*

I HAD the honour to report in my despatch No. 85 of to-day's date the proceedings of the plenary sitting of the Conference which was held yesterday.

Immediately after the sitting, M. de Radowitz took me on one side, and said that he wished to impress on me the fact that it had cost his Government much effort to give way on the point of placing a third Power in charge of the police at Casablanca, and that his Government were immovable on the question that the Diplomatic Body should supervise the manner in which the police forces exercised their functions. He had, he said, made as categorical a statement as possible before the Conference, and he could assure me that the success of the Conference depended upon the adherence of France to the German point of view. He begged me to communicate what he had said to my French colleague.

I saw M. Révoil as soon as we had returned home, and repeated to him what M. de Radowitz had said to me. He replied that his instructions were strict in requiring him to resist any intervention of the Diplomatic Body in the police functions, and he was perplexed as to how to deal with the situation created by the German statement, which he recognized was sufficiently precise and categorical. We discussed the matter for some time, and M. Révoil eventually suggested that it might be well if the Spanish, Russian, Italian, and United States' first delegates were to meet us both privately, and endeavour to devise some formula which would satisfy the German views, and at the same time render it easier for him to refer the question to his Government. The wording of the Austrian Article, as it stood, was very crude, and it would be useless for him to submit it to his Government in its existing form.

The above-mentioned delegates, M. Révoil, and myself, consequently met yesterday evening, and after a lengthy discussion we agreed upon the wording of an Article in following terms:—

"Les rapports et communications faits au Makhzen par l'Inspecteur au sujet de sa mission seront en même temps remis en copie au doyen du Corps Diplomatique, afin que le Corps Diplomatique soit mis à même de constater que la police chérifienne fonctionne conformément aux décisions prises par la Conférence et de surveiller si elle garantit d'une manière efficace et conforme aux Traités la sécurité des personnes et des biens des ressortissants, ainsi que celle des transactions commerciales."

Mr. Henry White undertook to submit the above Article to M. de Radowitz, as being the outcome of conversations which he had had with several other delegates, but as in no way being a proposal from M. Révoil himself.

This morning Mr. White was in a position to inform us that the German delegates approved of the Article as being in conformity with their views; and M. Révoil will now telegraph to his Government in the hope that they will accept it, and thus solve a difficulty which at one moment appeared to be a little threatening.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[11926] No. 30.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 87. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March* 28, 1906.

PREVIOUS to the meeting of the Conference yesterday evening M. Révoil called upon me, and asked if I would undertake to propose at the sitting that the Inspector-General should be of Swiss and not of Dutch nationality. He said that it would be a little awkward were he to make the proposal, and he trusted that I would be willing to do so. As I was aware that the French Government attached importance to the Inspector being of Swiss in preference to Dutch nationality, and as I knew you would wish me to assist my French colleague whenever he applied for my aid, I consented to meet his wishes, though I confess that the duty was not a pleasing one to me.

I saw M. de Testa, the Dutch Delegate, before the Conference met, and I explained to him the proposal which I contemplated submitting to the Conference, expressing at the same time the hope that he would not misunderstand my motives, as I was simply actuated by the desire to suggest a nationality which had the least material or political interest in Morocco. M. de Testa received my observations in very good part, and stated that his Government did not particularly desire that a Dutch officer should be appointed, as they thought that the duties would be difficult and delicate, and would expose the Government of the Inspector to the assumption of a certain responsibility.

The first paragraph of Article VI of the Project relating to the police runs as follows:—

"Le fonctionnement de la police sera, pendant la même période de cinq années, l'objet d'une inspection générale, qui sera confiée par Sa Majesté Chérifienne à un officier supérieur de l'armée Néerlandaise ou Suisse, dont le choix sera proposé à son agrément par le Gouvernement Néerlandais ou Fédéral Suisse."

When the discussion of this Article commenced I stated that I wished to submit a proposal to the Conference which caused me a little embarrassment, as it touched upon a somewhat delicate question. I had, however, such entire confidence in the friendly feelings of my Dutch colleague that I felt sure he would not misunderstand my motives in making it. No one, I added, appreciated more highly than myself the excellent qualities of Dutch officers, and no one could have greater confidence than myself in their zeal and devotion to their duties. But in regard to the appointment of an Inspector-General, it was, in my humble opinion, desirable to seek him in a country which was the most completely detached from an interest in Moorish affairs. Switzerland was not represented in Morocco and had no commercial or shipping interests in that country. Her citizens were under the protection, not of one, but of three Powers, viz., the United States, Germany, and France; and, moreover, she was not a signatory of the Madrid Convention. In regard to her relations with Morocco she therefore enjoyed an unique position, and it would be impossible to find a country whose disinterestedness was more evident and undeniable. I therefore thought that Switzerland was admirably placed to furnish an officer to fulfil the difficult and delicate duties of an Inspector-General, and it was well known that she possessed many capable and intelligent officers. I therefore proposed that we should ask our respective Governments to be good enough, when the time arrived, to communicate with the Federal Government, and beg them to select a superior and competent officer to fulfil the duties of Inspector-General of the Police in Morocco.

M. Révoil associated himself fully with the observations which I had made, and also expressed himself in flattering terms in regard to Dutch officers and the Dutch Government.

M. de Testa thanked both my French colleague and myself for our friendly expressions, for which he was sincerely grateful, and observed that his Government had expressed no desire to select an officer, and that he would communicate to them what had passed.

M. de Radowitz observed that it would be best to leave to the Sultan the choice of the nationality of the officer, whether he was to be of Swiss or of Dutch nationality, and I pointed out that this would place the Sultan in a very embarrassing position, as he had scarcely the means of forming a judgment in the matter. M. de Radowitz said that in

any case he must refer to his Government before expressing a decided opinion on my proposal.

M. de Radowitz told me after the meeting that his Government wished that the Inspector should be of Dutch nationality, but I said that I hoped they would make no difficulty on this point at the present stage of the proceedings. Mr. Henry White observed to him that the general sense of the Conference was in favour of the Inspector being of Swiss nationality.

I do not anticipate that the question will give rise to any difficulty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[11927] No. 31.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 88. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March* 28, 1906.

AT yesterday's sitting a discussion arose in regard to the number of Censors who should be appointed to watch over the administration of the bank. The original proposal, which I brought forward (see my despatch No. 51, of the 25th ultimo), was that there should be three Censors, but I did not mention their nationality. Subsequently it was settled that these three Censors should be named by the State Banks of France, Spain, and Germany; and at a later date Count Tattenbach spontaneously suggested that the Bank of England should be requested to name a fourth Censor. This suggestion I reported in my despatch No. 66, of the 10th instant, and it appeared to meet with the general approval of the Conference, though it was not at the time formally accepted.

Later on, Marquis Visconti Venosta, in view of there being an equal number of Censors, rendering a majority perhaps difficult to attain, suggested that there should be five Censors, and stated that the Italian State Bank would be ready to name the fifth Censor.

Thereupon the Austro-Hungarian Delegation expressed the wish that the Austrian State Bank should also name a sixth Censor, while the Portuguese Delegate reserved the right of proposing a seventh one. At this rate of progress it would be difficult to object to all the Powers represented at the Conference appointing Censors.

At yesterday's sitting it was observed that some limit should be placed on the number of Censors, and I think that the general sense of the Conference was that there should not be more than five Censors; but the Austro-Hungarian Delegation maintained that if Italy were to appoint the fifth Censor, they must continue to require that a sixth Censor should be appointed by Austria-Hungary.

The question seemed to be coming to a deadlock, and I therefore stated that I had never solicited or suggested that the Bank of England should name a Censor. Count Tattenbach had very courteously proposed on his own initiative that Great Britain should be represented on the Board of Censors, and that I had reported the matter to my Government about a fortnight ago. I was quite unaware what were the views of my Government on the subject, nor could I say whether or not they attached importance to the point. I would be very happy to telegraph and inquire of you in what light you regarded the matter; and if my Government did not wish to insist on having a Censor, the difficulty could be at once solved, and the original proposal of three Censors could be adopted. This suggestion met with general approval, and M. de Radowitz warmly thanked me for having made it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[11929] No. 32.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 90. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March* 30, 1906.

THE Conference discussed yesterday the question of a surtax on foreign imports, and I am happy to say it was decided to abandon the proposal that the surtax should

be 25 per cent. of existing duties, and to adopt in its place the principle that it should be 2½ per cent. *ad valorem*. The mode of dealing with the surtax is dealt with in Article VIII of the scheme for providing new sources of revenue to the Moorish Government, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy.*

I trust that I may be authorized to definitely accept the new measure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[11931] No. 33.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 92. Conference.)
Sir,

Algeciras, March 30, 1906.

I HAD on a former occasion expressed the hope that, in dealing with the question of frauds on the Customs, some measures would be taken to remedy the serious defects which existed in the Customs Administration, as I considered that it was inequitable that we should subject our nationals to pains and penalties for infractions of Customs Regulations, and at the same time allow the Customs Administration itself to remain in its present unsatisfactory condition. At the meeting of the Conference yesterday I again brought forward the question, and submitted two draft Articles dealing with the subject. I have the honour to inclose copies of these Articles.

The German Delegates, who are opposed to a representative of the French loan of 1904 being either on the Valuation Committee or on the Committee of Supervision, submitted a Customs project, and both of the schemes have been referred to the Drafting Committee.

I trust that some compromise will be found between the two projects, as I venture to think that they deal with a matter which in general interests it is desirable to set straight.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Amendments in Moroccan Customs Regulations proposed by British Delegate.

ARTICLE 20. L'estimation des marchandises devra être faite dans chaque bureau d'après un Tarif fixant la valeur des principales marchandises taxées et qui sera établi chaque année par une Commission des valeurs douanières ainsi composée :

1. Trois membres désignés par le Gouvernement Marocain.
2. Trois membres désignés par le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger.
3. Deux Délégués de la Banque d'État.
4. Deux agents de la Délégation de l'Emprunt Marocain 5 pour cent 1904.
5. Dix membres honoraires domiciliés au Maroc que la Commission consultera toutes les fois qu'elle le jugera utile. Ces membres honoraires seront désignés par la Commission elle-même sur les listes de Notables commerçants établies par chaque Légation pour les étrangers et par le Représentant du Sultan pour les Marocains.

Le Tarif des valeurs ainsi fixées n'entrera en vigueur qu'après avoir été approuvé par le Comité des Douanes institué par l'Article ci-après.

Il sera affiché dans les bureaux de Douane et dans les chancelleries des Légations à Tanger.

Article 20 (*bis*). Un Comité Permanent, dit "Comité des Douanes," est institué à Tanger. Il sera composé d'un Délégué du Corps Diplomatique, d'un Commissaire Spécial de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, d'un fonctionnaire de la Délégation de l'Emprunt 1904.

Ce Comité sera consulté sur toutes les améliorations qu'il conviendrait d'apporter à l'Administration des Douanes Chérifiennes.

Il veillera à ce que les opérations en Douane (débarquements, embarquements, transports à terre, manipulations, entrées et sorties des marchandises, magasinage,

* Not printed.

estimation et liquidation des droits) et d'une façon générale toutes les prescriptions concernant les formalités douanières et la comptabilité, soient régulièrement exécutées par les agents des Douanes et surveillées par le service du contrôle, prévu aux Articles 15 et 16 du Contrat du 12 Juin, 1904.

Les faits de contrebande et de fraude, et généralement toutes les infractions au présent Règlement, devront lui être signalés par le service du contrôle.

Un Règlement élaboré par le Comité des Douanes et les services intéressés déterminera les détails de l'application de l'Article 20 et du présent Article. Il sera soumis à l'approbation de Sa Majesté Chérifienne après avis conforme du Corps Diplomatique.

Algésiras, le 29 *Mars*, 1906.

[11932] No. 34.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 93. Conference.)
Sir,

Algeciras, March 30, 1906.

AT yesterday's sitting of the Conference, the President asked whether I had received any reply from His Majesty's Government to my inquiry as to their views in regard to the Bank of England appointing a Censor to supervise the administration of the future State Bank in Morocco. I informed the Conference that His Majesty's Government, in view of the important commercial interests which Great Britain possessed in Morocco, did not consider that they could waive a claim to be represented on the Board of Censors.

Marquis Visconti Venosta then stated that, in the circumstances, and in order to avoid any future discussion, he was prepared to withdraw his proposal that the State Bank of Italy should name a fifth Censor; and Count Welsersheimb made a similar statement in regard to an Austrian Censor. The Portuguese Delegate, and also the Belgian Delegate, announced that they also withdrew the reservations which they had made in respect to their respective State Banks appointing Censors.

The Conference, therefore, decided that the Board should be composed of four Censors, named respectively by the Bank of England and the State Banks of France, Spain, and Germany.

The Portuguese Delegate had informed me that his instructions were to take no step without my concurrence, and he begged me to address him a private letter stating that I wished him not to insist on claiming a Censor for the State Bank of Portugal. I agreed to do so; and beg leave to inclose a copy of the communication which I made to him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Sir A. Nicolson to Comte de Martens Ferrao.

Mon cher Ministre,

Algésiras, le 29 *Mars*, 1906.

ME référant à notre conversation de ce matin, je me permets de vous suggérer de vouloir bien ne pas insister sur une représentation sur le Collège des Censeurs, car j'ai toute raison de croire que le nombre sera définitivement fixé à quatre Censeurs, choisis des Banques d'Angleterre, de France, d'Allemagne, et d'Espagne. Si mes suppositions sont correctes, vous me rendriez un vrai service en désistant aussi de votre demande, et vous me donneriez une nouvelle preuve du cordial concours que vous m'avez toujours prêté pendant la Conférence.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) A. NICOLSON.

[11933] No. 35.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 94. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, March* 30, 1906.

WITH reference to the instructions contained in your telegram No. 44 of the 9th instant, to bring before the Conference the question of limiting the importation into, and sale of alcoholic drinks in Morocco, it seemed to me that the best course to take would be for me to address a letter to the President of the Conference on the subject. I have the honour to transmit a copy of the communication which I made to the Duke of Almodovar.

His Excellency read my letter at yesterday's sitting of the Conference, and I suggested that the question should be referred to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier, who would be best able to deal with it. This proposal was unanimously adopted, and at the suggestion of the Duke of Almodovar it was decided, in communicating the letter to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body, to add that the proposals contained in it, and the views which were expressed, met with the entire concurrence of the Conference.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 35.

Sir A. Nicolson to President of Moroccan Conference.

M. le Président, *Algésiras, le 24 Mars*, 1906

J'AI l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien présenter à la Conférence, au moment où la question de la surtaxe revient en discussion, une proposition que je désire soumettre à la bienveillante considération des honorables Délégués, concernant le commerce des boissons alcooliques au Maroc. A la Conférence de Bruxelles en 1890, on est convenu de certaines mesures restrictives du trafic des spiritueux, et on a créé une zone dans les limites de laquelle l'entrée des boissons distillées est prohibée. Le Maroc est sans doute hors des limites de cette zone, et je ne désire pas proposer que les Règlements de l'acte de la Conférence de Bruxelles soient appliqués dans leur entier.

La consommation des boissons alcooliques commence, malheureusement, à faire quelques progrès parmi les indigènes habitant les ports ou les environs des ports, contrairement à leurs croyances religieuses et au grand détriment de leur morale.

Il serait à désirer que quelques mesures pussent être prises pour empêcher ou diminuer le progrès de ce mal; et je serais heureux que les honorables Délégués voulussent bien prendre en considération une proposition pour limiter l'introduction des boissons distillées à celles destinées à la consommation des populations non-indigènes et, en même temps, prier le Gouvernement Marocain d'interdire la fabrication dans le Maroc des boissons distillées. Le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger pourrait, peut-être, délibérer sur le meilleur moyen de limiter l'introduction au Maroc des boissons alcooliques.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) A. NICOLSON.

[11997] No. 36.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 63. Confidential.)

Sir, *Madrid, April* 4, 1906.

GENERAL satisfaction is expressed at Madrid at the manner in which Spain has emerged from the Algeciras Conference. The press claims for her a diplomatic success, one of the leading papers going so far as to say that the position which she has secured in the north of Morocco should afford a new opening for her energies, replacing to a considerable extent her lost Colonies.

Señor de Ojeda, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, takes rather a less complacent view of the situation. Though he thinks that some increase has been gained in Spanish prestige, owing to the intervention of England, which has induced France to agree to a fair partition of influence with Spain, he does not seem to look forward to any marked development of the Spanish possessions in Morocco, or to any great improvement in the general situation in that country. The Conference, he considers, has rendered a great service by securing, at least for the present, the peace of Europe. But Germany has asserted a right of intervention in Morocco, the exercise of which is not unlikely to prove some day intolerable to France. If a conflict is to be avoided, there must be no weakening of the understanding between France and England.

This, Señor de Ojeda informed me a few days ago, was his general view of the results of the Conference. Touching on the joint policing of Casablanca and Tangier by French and Spanish officers, as arranged by the Conference, he said that he did not share the President of the Council's approval of this plan, which seemed to him likely to cause frequent friction between the officers of the two countries. He repeated what he has said to me before as to the extreme dislike entertained by the Spanish element in Morocco for the French element, and the difficulty of harmonious co-operation between them.

In interviews with representatives of the press, Señor Moret has declared his complete satisfaction with the work accomplished at Algeciras. In conversation with myself, he does not conceal that, in his view, Germany has secured a good share of the objects she was contending for, and he thinks that some day she will probably endeavour to tempt France into compliance with German schemes elsewhere by offering to leave her alone in Morocco.

The French Ambassador informs me that Señor Moret is in agreement with him as to the advisability of reasserting the existing agreements between France, England, and Spain, concerning Morocco, by some public announcement.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

[12083] No. 37.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 7.)

(No. 147.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Algeciras, April 7, 1906.*

GENERAL Act and Additional Protocol were signed this morning.

[12093] No. 38.

Mr. Spring-Rice to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 9.)

(No. 234.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, March* 21, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 197 of the 17th ultimo on the subject of Morocco, I have the honour to inform you that Count Lamsdorff told me to-day that he had learned that a rumour had been spread in Paris to the effect that Russia was in favour of the Austrian proposal, and thought that France ought to yield, in fact, a rumour precisely similar to that spread with regard to England.

He had consequently instructed Count Cassini to inform the other Delegates that the Russian Government categorically denied the rumour to the effect that Russia had advised France to accept the Austrian proposal, or was in favour of the organization of the police of Casa Blanca by a third Power.

Count Lamsdorff added that he had always been ready to do his utmost to promote a peaceful solution of the questions in dispute, but that the Russian Government had never deviated for a moment from her policy of supporting her ally.

He expressed himself strongly on the subject of the rumours which appeared to have been spread simultaneously in Paris and St. Petersburgh with regard to the supposed disinclination of the Russian and British Governments to afford France their support in view of the last proposal which had been made with regard to the police. The object was manifest, and was, in his view, very regrettable.

In conclusion, he observed that the points of divergence between the French and German views were now of such slight consequence, for the Germans had announced their intention not to insist on the separate organization of the Casa Blanca police, that it seemed to him almost inconceivable that the Conference should be unable to come to an arrangement on the subject. If it failed to do so it would be a disgrace to Europe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

[12095] No. 39.

Mr. Spring-Rice to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 9.)

(No. 236. Confidential.)
Sir, *St. Petersburgh, April* 3, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 234 of the 21st instant, on the subject of Morocco, I have the honour to state that, according to information which has reached me, the telegram which Count Lamsdorff dispatched to the Russian Embassies and to Count Cassini, denying the truth of the rumours which had been spread as to the support given to the last German proposal by the Russian Government, and to their disinclination to support the French protest, was communicated, in its general sense, by M. de Nélidow to the correspondent of the "Temps" before the Ambassador had handed it to M. Bourgeois. It was telegraphed to Berlin, and thus reached the German Foreign Office before its formal communication through the Russian Embassy. This procedure gave rise to energetic protests on the part of the German Government, who complained of the very discourteous course which had been followed. Count Lamsdorff, who was not responsible for the communication to the press, expressed his regret, as did also M. de Nélidow, in conversation with the German Ambassador. An official communiqué was also published in St. Petersburgh, stating that the "Temps" had misrepresented the terms of the Russian telegram, which had contained expressions of a sincere desire for the attainment of a solution agreeable to all parties.

The incident is now regarded as closed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

[12129] No. 40.

Sir E. Goschen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 9.)

(No. 33. Confidential.)
Sir, *Vienna, April* 6, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the following communiqué has been published in the Vienna press with regard to the part played by Count Welsersheimb, the Austro-Hungarian Delegate, at the Conference at Algeciras :—

"By command of the Emperor, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Goluchowski, has conveyed to the first Delegate of Austria-Hungary at the Algeciras Conference, his Excellency, Count Welsersheimb, the great satisfaction felt by His Majesty the Emperor and King at the tactful and sagacious manner in which he brought the mediation to a successful issue, and at the same time has expressed His Majesty's thanks for the untiring exertions of his Excellency to which the success finally attained is due."

Count Goluchowski is naturally delighted at the fact that the Austro-Hungarian proposals have been recognized on all sides as having formed the basis of the understanding between France and Germany with regard to the Moroccan police and State bank questions.

At his last diplomatic reception he told me that he was greatly pleased that Austria-Hungary had been able successfully to play the part so clearly marked out for her by her alliance with Germany and her friendly relations with France, and he congratulated himself that, aided by the spirit of mutual forbearance which had been shown by the Representatives at the Conference of these two Powers, he and his colleagues had been the means of clearing the ground for a satisfactory solution of the most delicate questions before the Conference.

His Excellency repudiated the suggestion put forward in many quarters that the Austro-Hungarian proposals were of German origin. The German Government had certainly been consulted before the proposals had been submitted to the Conference, but that had been only natural, as it would have been useless to bring them forward without some knowledge as to how far they would prove acceptable as a basis of negotiation.

The numerous concessions which Germany had been called upon to make were surely proof enough that she had had no hand in framing the proposals.

There is, indeed, every justification for Count Goluchowski's elation, for, setting aside the fact that the understanding reached at the Conference removes a great cause of anxiety, it is quite clear that the general chorus of approbation of the action of Austria-Hungary, which has reached the press from French and German sources, has been most useful to the monarchy in general and the Minister for Foreign Affairs in particular. It has given a very necessary and timely fillip to Austrian prestige, it has strengthened Count Goluchowski's position very considerably, and I do not think it is too much to say that the feeling of satisfaction felt by the country with regard to the prominent part played by its Government at a momentous European crisis will go far towards facilitating the settlement of the internal troubles which are at present causing so much uneasiness throughout the Empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. E. GOSCHEN.

[11904] No. 41.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 7.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April* 9, 1906.

INQUIRIES are being made in Paris concerning the Company referred to in your telegram No. 15 of the 6th instant. It is believed to be entirely French, although registered here. Request the applicant to furnish you with full particulars for the information of His Majesty's Government; should he ask you for your support, tell him that you must refer the matter to me. In no case can we countenance monopolies.

The conditions under which concessions will in future be granted in Morocco have, moreover, been laid down by the Conference at Algeciras.

[12688] No. 42.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 14.)

(No. 59.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 3, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a private letter I have received from a Moorish correspondent at Marakesh describing the disturbed state of that city and of the southern districts generally. His account of the condition of that part of the country confirms the information which had previously reached me, as reported in my despatches Nos. 51 and 58 of the 20th and 31st ultimo respectively. The misery and destitution existing in Marakesh are undoubtedly also prevalent in the other towns of the south as well as in the country districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Letter addressed by Sid Bubeker to Mr. Lowther.

(Translation.)

KAÏD TAIB GUNDAFI has gone to visit the Sultan at Fez. Kaïds Madani of Glawi and Abdelmalek of M'tuga are attacking him, and have combined to destroy his strongholds. The Kaïd of Glawi has collected the tribes of Misfewa, Ghaghaia, Ourika, and others, and has gone to Gergoor in the Gundafi district and attacked his house there, effecting an entrance into it; and he has set up as Governor the brother of Sektani, the ex-Governor now at Fez; this being done without the knowledge or orders of the Sultan. Many were killed on both sides.

Kaïd Abdelmalek M'tugi collected M'tuga, Ulad Bu Sbaa, M'jat, and Ulad M'taa, and went to Amzmiz (belonging to Gundafi) and attacked it, effecting an entrance. He set up as Governor there the son of El Hassan-el-Hadoosh, who was formerly Governor of Amzmiz, and was removed by the Sultan and sent to Tiznit; this he did without the authority of the Sultan.

They are still attacking a third stronghold belonging to Gundafi at Tagundaft in the mountains, and are now besieging it.

Kaïd Taib Gundafi is still with the Sultan.

Abda and Dukala.—The tribesmen were fighting amongst themselves, and there were many deaths on both sides; no Abda man could go to Dukala, nor *vice versâ*. As both sides were continually suffering heavy losses, they arranged a truce until they could hear from the Makhzen. They agreed to keep the roads open, and engaged that if a Dukala man should go to an Abda market, he should go without horse or rifle, and *vice versâ*.

Rahamna.—Rahamna, Menebha, Harbil, Ulad Dlim, and Hamar are united and engaged in highway robbery night and day, attacking farms, &c. They go about in bands of 100 or 200 men, and kill and plunder any one they come across. Their chief occupation is to go to markets, and when they hear of any man being there with property they attack him and rob him; if he keeps quiet, well and good; if not, they shoot him. They hold up caravans coming with merchandize from Mazagan, and invent excuses for plundering them, but little coming through.

Morocco City.—The drought has given rise to very high prices and famine, and no one can leave his house on account of the number of beggars. People are selling their houses and property, but without profit, and if one wishes to give alms, it is impossible, as an enormous number of persons immediately fall on him, and if it were not for the imported flour, &c., every one would have died. No one, rich or poor, can go to the grain market. The whole city is filled with bad characters, strangers and Bedouins from all quarters, and firing occurs always all through the night by the guards placed at the doors of houses, shops, and fondaks.

Marakesh, March 21, 1906.

[12689] No. 43.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 14.)

(No. 60.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 3, 1906.

NEWS has reached me from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez that a small expedition of the Pretender's forces has arrived at Sidi Ali-ben-Daoud, of Marnisa, about 60 miles north-east of Fez. It consists of about 250 horsemen. The expedition was, in the first instance, sent against one of the Pretender's Kaïds accused of being in correspondence with the Sultan.

The expedition was expected to proceed to Ain Mediouna, about 30 miles from Fez, and another force was expected to arrive at Sok-es-Sebt-al-Gueliz, between Ain Mediouna and Beni Zerna.

It is thought in Fez that the object of these expeditions is to keep the troops there as much employed as possible while the Pretender himself attacks some other district, probably east-south-east of Tetuan, but there are others who think that an attack on Fez may be contemplated.

The people of Ulad Bilghaina, who are threatened to be attacked by the Pretender's forces, have sent into Fez to ask for the Court's directions and for help if attacked, and have been promised it. Where the troops who are to afford such assistance are to come from does not seem clear, as all the Sultan's recent efforts to strengthen his army have proved ineffectual.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12691] No. 44.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 14.)

(No. 62.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 8, 1906.

IN the month of October 1905 the Diplomatic Body, as "Conseil Sanitaire," unanimously granted to a French citizen, M. Regis, a permission to make use of the streets of the town to convey water through pipes from one property of his to another.

Some two months later the Moorish Commissioner entered a protest against this permission having being granted, on the grounds that the streets were Makhzen property. Since the middle of January last the "Conseil Sanitaire" has been arguing as to what reply should be made to this protest, the German and the Austrian Representatives maintaining that the view of the Makhzen was correct, and that, although the "Conseil Sanitaire" had the right to grant the use of the streets, a further authority was required by M. Regis from the Makhzen to convey the water through these streets.

The protest still remains unanswered, and M. Regis, having in the meantime purchased all the necessary pipes, &c., for the undertaking, yesterday evening began laying them. Work had not proceeded far when Makhzen troops arrived and filled up the trenches, and were placed all along the line where the pipes were to be laid. The workmen, most of whom were Spaniards, were conveyed to their Consulate. There the matter remains for the present, but it will no doubt develop, and further incidents may be expected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12692] No. 45.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 14.)

(No. 63.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 8, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 55, 58, and 59 of the 26th and 31st ultimo and the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that the rumour that Mouley Hafid, the Sultan's Viceroy in Morocco City, is inclined to head a rebellion is becoming general. Mr. Consul Maclean states that it is certain that the different Governors of the southern provinces have been made to quarrel, but he is unable to judge what control the Makhzen had over them. He is of opinion that Mouley Hafid could not unite the tribes unless he proclaimed himself at the head of a Jehad.

It seems that the Kaïds of Glawi and M'tooga have been pressing Mouley Hafid very strongly to proclaim himself Sultan, but the best information obtainable seems to point to the fact that the time is not ripe for him to show his hand. Mouley Hafid is very ambitious, full of energy and zeal, and has acquired great power, and no doubt longs for more. There have been rumours current that he would be removed by the Makhzen, but at present they are powerless to do so, and any attempt in that direction would have serious results.

In Mogador the opinion is that Mouley Hafid would not be able to unite enough of the powerful tribes to declare himself Sultan of the South.

The condition of affairs in the neighbourhood of Rabat shows no signs of improvement. The tribesmen of Zair are molesting the town. Their attacks have so far been repulsed, but the 500 rifles sent by the Sultan to protect the town, have been sold by the Kaïd to the very people they were intended to be used against.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12693] No. 46.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 14.)

(No. 103. Conference.)
Sir, *Algeciras, April 4, 1906.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 90 of the 30th ultimo and to your telegram No. 69 of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to state that at the plenary sitting of the Conference on the 2nd instant I proposed that there should be five instead of three Delegates from the Diplomatic Body on the "Bureau d'Adjudication." My motion was agreed to unanimously. I had previously consulted all the principal Delegates on the subject, and had found that none had any objection to my proposal. As there are only ten foreign Representatives at Tangier, there will be no fear that the British Representative will not be one of the five members selected to serve on the "Bureau d'Adjudication."

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[12700] No. 47.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 14.)

(No. 105. Conference.)
Sir, *Algeciras, April 4, 1906.*

AT the plenary sitting on the 2nd instant the Moorish Delegates expressed a desire that the Conference should enter on a discussion of the mode in which Article IX of the Madrid Convention relative to protection was executed.

I pointed out that the question of protection was not among the subjects which had been submitted to our deliberation, and that we were not authorized, or in a position, to discuss the provisions of a Convention already in force.

The President of the Conference informed the Moorish Delegates that the Conference would be ready to listen to any observations which they desired to make, but that it was outside of our province to enter into any discussion upon them. In these circumstances the Moorish Delegates replied that they would inform the Sultan in the above sense.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[12701] No. 48.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 14.)

(No. 106. Conference.)
Sir, *Algeciras, April 4, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a statement which the United States' Delegate, Mr. Henry White, read to the Conference at the plenary sitting of the 2nd instant, relative to the treatment of Jews in Morocco. The Conference unanimously rallied to the proposals of Mr. White.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 48.

Statement by Mr. Henry White.

LE Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique a toujours considéré comme un devoir de s'associer à tout ce qui pourrait contribuer au progrès des idées d'humanité et assurer le respect dû à toutes les croyances religieuses. Animé par ces sentiments et par l'amitié qui a si longtemps subsisté entre lui et l'Empire Marocain, dont il suit le développement avec un profond intérêt, mon Gouvernement m'a chargé d'invoquer

le concours de la Conférence, au moment où elle est sur le point de terminer ses travaux, dans le but de l'émission d'un vœu pour le bien-être des Israélites au Maroc.

Je suis heureux de constater que la condition des sujets Israélites de Sa Majesté Chérifienne a été de beaucoup améliorée pendant le règne du feu Sultan Mouley-el-Hassan, et que le Sultan actuel paraît, autant qu'il lui a été possible, les avoir traités avec équité et bienveillance. Mais les agents du Makhzen dans les parties du pays éloignées du pouvoir central ne s'inspirent pas toujours suffisamment des sentiments de tolérance et de justice qui animent leur Souverain.

La délégation Américaine vient donc prier la Conférence de vouloir bien émettre le vœu que Sa Majesté Chérifienne continue dans la bonne voie inaugurée par son père, et maintenue par Sa Majesté elle-même par rapport à ses sujets Israélites, et qu'elle vise à ce que son Gouvernement ne néglige aucune occasion de faire savoir à ses fonctionnaires que le Sultan tient à ce que les Israélites de son Empire et tous ses sujets, sans distinction de croyance, soient traités avec justice et équité.

[12702] No. 49.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 14.)

(No. 107. Conference.)
Sir, *Algeciras, April 4, 1906.*

AT the plenary sitting of the Conference on the 2nd instant I read to the Conference two Declarations respectively relating to slavery in Morocco and to the condition of the prisons in that country. I have the honour to transmit a copy of these Declarations. I am happy to state that the Conference unanimously adopted both my Resolutions, with the exception of the Moorish Delegate, who stated that neither of the questions to which I had made allusion was inscribed on the programme of the Conference.

The Sultan had, during my residence at Tangier, effected considerable improvements in the prison administration, on which I reported at the time to your Department; but I have been given to understand that of late the prisons were relapsing into their former deplorable condition. I trust that you will approve of my having brought this question to the notice of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 49.

Declarations respecting Slavery and Prisons.

JE me permets de soumettre à la Conférence une suggestion que les honorables Délégués veuillent bien exprimer un vœu auprès de Sa Majesté Chérifienne pour qu'elle daigne prendre en considération la question d'esclavage dans son empire et adopter de telles mesures que Sa Majesté croirait être opportunes pour limiter et graduellement abolir le système d'esclavage, et surtout pour défendre la vente publique des esclaves dans les villes de son Empire.

2. Je voudrais en même temps prier la Conférence de vouloir bien exprimer ses vœux que Sa Majesté Chérifienne daigne continuer en vigueur les mesures qui ont été prises il y a quelques années pour remédier aux défectuosités qui existaient auparavant dans l'administration des prisons du Maroc.

[12820] No. 50.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 106.)
Sir, *Berlin, April 9, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of an extract from the semi-official review of foreign affairs, appearing weekly in the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," expressing the satisfaction given in Germany by the references

to Prince Bülow's illness, and to the results of the Morocco Conference, made by Lord Fitzmaurice in the House of Lords.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Extract from the "North German Gazette."

(Translation.)

THE general satisfaction at the Morocco debate in the Reichstag will be still more increased by the discussion of that subject in the British House of Lords, where the Representative of the Foreign Office, Lord Fitzmaurice, spoke in a very friendly manner respecting the results of the Conference, and added to his utterances some most sympathetic words about Prince Bülow. This announcement has awakened, both in official quarters and in all circles of the German people, very friendly feelings, which, like the announcement of the British statesman, can but help on the happy *rapprochement* between the two great nations.

In Germany it will be recorded with satisfaction that after the termination of the labours of the Conference, the English and French newspapers have pronounced themselves in a manner overwhelmingly friendly.

[12814] No. 51.

Mr. Spring-Rice to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 256.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, April 11, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to state that the French Ambassador called at the Embassy yesterday in order to express the thanks of his Government for the steady and cordial support afforded to France by the Representatives of Great Britain during the Algeciras Conference.

Speaking for himself, he added that, judging by the correspondence which had reached him, there had been some awkward moments during the Conference, and especially after the communication of the first Austrian proposal. There had been a feeling in France that her supporters, both here and in England, were inclined to weaken on the question of Casa Blanca. These doubts, which existed only for a short period, were dissipated by the clear and definite statement issued by you and Count Lamsdorff. Since then all had been well.

I said that I hoped that we both would bear in mind that if France or England entertained suspicions of the sincerity of the other, these suspicions would infallibly be exploited by those who wished to destroy our friendship, which, we hoped, would contribute so greatly to the general cause of peace.

He said he entirely agreed. Nothing could be better suited to put an end to such suspicions than the frank and loyal attitude of His Majesty's Government during the last few months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

[12967] No. 52.

Sir E. Goschen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 43.)

Sir, *Vienna, April 14, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Emperor of Germany has addressed a telegram to Count Goluchowski, of which the following is a translation:—

"At this moment when, with the consent of your August Sovereign, I am sending to Count Welsersheimb the Grand Cross of my Order of the Red Eagle, in recognition of his successful efforts at Algeciras, I feel compelled to offer you from the bottom of my heart my sincere thanks for the unswerving support you gave to my Representative at the Conference, an act indeed worthy of a true ally. As our second in this encounter you rendered the most brilliant service, and in similar circumstances you can always count on a similar service from me."

This morning the semi-official "Fremdenblatt" published a leading article (of which I inclose a translation by Mr. Seymour) expressing the pleasure which must be felt throughout the Empire at the warm and generous language in which the Emperor of Germany has recorded his gratitude for the action of Austria-Hungary at the Conference, and hailing with delight this fresh proof of the firmness of the alliance between the two countries.

The unofficial press, however, and public opinion, as far as it can be now judged, does not appear to be carried away with enthusiasm for the message, and, from what I hear, there appears to be in many quarters a feeling that the telegram might with advantage have been worded differently, and less emphasis placed on the idea that Austria-Hungary acted solely in Germany's interests.

Public opinion here has been happy in the idea that the Austro-Hungarian Government were generally recognized as having taken the initiative in finding a solution of the delicate questions before the Conference satisfactory to and in the interests of both France and Germany. Now there is an uneasy feeling that by the Emperor's telegram their Government has been held up to the world as blind followers of their powerful ally.

Amongst the journals which have written in this strain the "Zeit," a rather independent daily paper, takes the most depressing view of the telegram.

It says, in the course of a long article:—

"Turn this telegram which way you will it does not please us. It does not please Austrian public opinion, and we can hardly think that it is quite agreeable even to its recipient.

"Even if we had no particularly burning interests of our own to represent at the Morocco Conference, there was all the less reason for us to look after those of another nation before the eyes of the whole world. And this—even if it had so far remained unknown—is officially proved to have been the case by this sensational telegram. What though, as in the present case, this other State was our ally? The Triple Alliance was not engaged in the Conference at Algeciras, or else M. Guicciardini, who manages the Foreign Affairs of Italy, would have sent the same instructions to the Italian Representative as Count Goluchowski sent to Count Welsersheimb, who has now been decorated with the Cross of the Red Eagle. Italy, however, took her own line without regard to Germany or the Triple Alliance, just as, three years ago, she found the Triple Alliance no obstacle to the establishment of good relations with France. Bülow then coined the word 'Extra-tour,' which he found to be quite in keeping with the Treaty duties of Italy. We had, therefore, no more a duty to fulfil with regard to the alliance than had Italy."

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. E. GOSCHEN.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Extract from the "Fremdenblatt" of April 14, 1906.

(Translation.)

THE admirable telegram sent by Emperor William to our Minister of Foreign Affairs will be welcomed throughout Austria-Hungary with the liveliest satisfaction. With characteristic warmth and vivacity the Emperor expresses his thanks for the attitude adopted by Austrian diplomacy at Algeciras. The mediation of Count Welsersheimb bridged the wide gulf which separated the German and French Representatives, and gave the international stamp to the solution of the Moroccan question which Germany from the first had desired to impress on it. To assist her to reach this goal was the principal endeavour of Austria-Hungary, and it is a matter of congratulation for all parties that the goal was reached in spite of the many pessimistic predictions with regard to the outcome of the Conference. The speeches made by Prince Bülow and M. Bourgeois agree in characterizing the result of the Conference as being beneficial to all countries. Had the Conference failed, France would have retained a free hand in Morocco, but would have incurred the odium of her action not meeting with general approval; this sentiment would, moreover, probably have found practical expression in Europe, and possibly, too, in Africa. The success of the Conference limits France's sphere of operations, but it is a guarantee of general security, and should therefore be welcomed in France by all except those who are advocates of an over-daring policy. The successful outcome is of great value to Germany, as the principles of international

control and of the "open door" are thereby assured, on the maintenance of which Germany had staked her prestige and which are of real importance to her. Prince Bülow recently pointed out that Germany, confident in the justice of her cause, insisted on the Conference, in spite of the fact that three Great Powers were bound to France by special Agreements, and that a fourth was her ally. Austria-Hungary regarded it as her duty and to her interest to act in the spirit of the Treaty of Madrid and to support the German standpoint, while at the same time recognizing the special interests of France and Spain. Our friendly relations to these two countries rendered a task easier, which, though not imposed by the terms of our alliance (prescribing as it does the obligations of the Contracting Parties), is, nevertheless, in accordance with the spirit of the compact, which derives its strength from mutual confidence and help. The aspirations of allies are not always identical, and it may happen that in questions outside the sphere of the alliance the path they follow is not the same. It is, however, only natural that allies should come to each other's assistance even in questions not included in the provisions of their Treaty, and the Austro-Hungarian Government considered it natural to approach the problems dealt with at the Conference in this spirit. The chivalrous German Emperor has stated in his telegram of thanks that we can in similar circumstances count on a similar service from him. The warmth with which the telegram is worded may be universally regarded as a fresh proof of the firmness of the alliance.

During the Conference it was stated often enough that its failure would not, as timid souls predicted, constitute a danger of war, but that it would bring with it a general feeling of insecurity. Austria-Hungary formulated the German wish for a solution on an international basis of the question, and this formula, having been partially modified by the United States, met with the approval of France. This country thereby did all in her power to reconcile conflicting interests, to banish the existing feeling of uneasiness, and to enable her ally to realize her desire for international control. In this manner the cause of peace has been served, and our alliance has once again given a proof of its pacific character. The public utterances of all statesmen have rendered tribute to the peaceful nature of the Conference at Algeciras. The British Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, when alluding to this subject, spoke of the German Chancellor in such warm terms, that his words may be regarded as an hopeful omen for an improvement in Anglo-German relations, and the French Minister for Foreign Affairs concluded his statement about the Conference with the assurance, that France was determined to dedicate the strength derived from her alliances and friendships to the cause of civilization, justice, and peace. Satisfaction at the result of the Conference is expressed in Berlin, Paris, and London, and it was in these three capitals that last year the question of Morocco caused the greatest discussion. This result must therefore be regarded as most satisfactory. The German Emperor's telegram to Count Goluchowski shows what especial value Germany attaches to the successful solution of the crisis and as the Conference was proposed by Germany, it is fitting that our particular congratulations to that country should be recorded.

[13296] No. 53.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 19.)

(No. 113. Conference.)

Sir, *Algeciras, April* 7, 1906.

THE General Act of the Conference and the Additional Protocol were signed at the final plenary sitting this morning by all the Delegates, with the exception of the Moors.

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the former document certified as correct by the Duke of Almodovar, President of the Conference.*

Owing to the words "Pour le Maroc" having been erroneously inserted in the copies of the Additional Protocol among the Signatory Powers, I am unable to forward a certified copy, but I beg to transmit an uncertified one, which is otherwise correct.* The copy certified by the President of the Conference will be forwarded through diplomatic channels by the Spanish Government.

Before affixing his signature, Mr. Henry White made a declaration that he was authorized to sign by his Government with the reserve that by so doing the United States' Government incurred no responsibility for the enforcement of the Regulations

* Not printed.

and Declarations contained in the General Act, and Mr. White added a note to this effect against his signature. I have the honour to inclose the text of Mr. White's Declaration. The Swedish Delegate stated that he signed with the same reserve on the part of his Government.

I should add that M. Regnault, who was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary by the French Government, and has been acting as technical adviser throughout the negotiations, was officially appointed Second Delegate of the Republic a few days ago, and accordingly signed the General Act and Additional Protocol in that capacity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 53.

American Declaration.

LE Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique, n'ayant pas d'intérêts politiques au Maroc, et n'ayant été, en prenant part à cette Conférence, animé de désirs et intentions autres que de contribuer à assurer à toutes les nations l'égalité la plus étendue au Maroc en matière de commerce, de traitement et de prérogatives, et d'y faciliter l'introduction de réformes dont le résultat serait un bien-être général basé sur une cordialité complète de relations extérieures et une stabilité administrative intérieure, déclare: qu'en s'associant aux Règlements et Déclarations de la Conférence par la signature de l'Acte Général, sous réserve de ratification en conformité avec les lois constitutionnelles, et du Protocol Additionnel, et en acceptant leur application aux citoyens et aux intérêts Américains au Maroc, il ne prend sur lui aucune obligation ou responsabilité par rapport aux mesures qui pourraient être nécessaires pour la mise à exécution des dits Règlements et Déclarations.

Note accompanying signature was to following effect:—

"Sous réserve de la déclaration faite en séance plénière du 7 Avril."

[13531] No. 54.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 21.)

(No. 66.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 13, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 63 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report that His Majesty the Sultan, realizing the great disorder that exists amongst the tribes in the neighbourhood of Morocco City, has, in order to endeavour to cope with it, sent a Commission ostensibly to try and reconcile the disputants. This consists of Mhemed Gharnit, a brother of the Grand Vizier, El Arbi Sinhaji, Kaïd El Arbi Sussi, and Kaïd Abdesselam El Bokhari.

These men are said to be empowered to remove Kaïds of whom the tribes complain and to appoint others, and by all means in their power to quiet the district, and they are, moreover, instructed to keep a sharp eye on Mulai Hafeed, whose reported desire to upset the Sultan has reached His Majesty's ears.

As the Commission is not accompanied by any armed force it does not seem likely that they will meet with much success, and their decisions will probably remain a dead letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13553] No. 55.

Mr. Spring-Rice to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 21.)

(No. 269.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, April* 14, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, in French translation from the "Journal de Saint-Pétersbourg," the text of an Imperial Rescript addressed to Count Cassini praising his work as the Representative of Russia at the Morocco Conference

and rewarding him for it by promotion to the rank of Actual Privy Councillor—the highest grade in the official hierarchy with the exception of that of Chancellor of the Empire (which has long been in abeyance).

The Rescript comments on the fact that at the Conference Russia, having no vital interests in Morocco, was able, with entire impartiality, to contribute to the cause of conciliation by unvarying support of France without injury to her traditional friendly relations with Germany.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL SPRING-RICE.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Extract from the "Journal de Saint-Pétersbourg" of March 30, 1906.

Imperial Russian Rescript addressed to Count Cassini.

Comte Arthur Pavlovitch,

SUR l'initiative du Gouvernement Allemand, une Conférence Internationale à l'effet de résoudre certaines questions Marocaines a été convoquée à Algésiras au mois de Janvier de cette année. Vu la portée marquante de cette réunion, mon choix s'est arrêté sur vous comme Premier Plénipotentiaire de la Russie, en raison de vos éminentes capacités et de la vaste expérience acquise par vous dans les différents postes diplomatiques que vous avez occupés.

La participation de la Russie aux travaux de la Conférence était déterminée par son désir de concourir, dans la mesure du possible, à l'aplanissement des difficultés qui s'étaient produites et d'assurer par là le maintien de la paix générale. N'ayant pas d'intérêts directs et vitaux au Maroc, la Russie pouvait, avec une entière impartialité, assumer la tâche de contribuer à la conciliation de revendications différentes, en accordant un appui invariable à la France, son alliée, sans porter aucunement atteinte à ses relations traditionnellement amicales avec l'Allemagne.

En vous conformant strictement à mes prescriptions, vous avez su exercer cette influence pacificatrice qui a eu une part notable dans la solution entièrement satisfaisante pour tous les États des questions discutées à Algésiras.

Appréciant vos services zélés, je vous confère en témoignage de ma sincère reconnaissance le rang de Conseiller Privé Actuel, et je demeure votre invariablement bienveillant,

(Signé) NICOLAS.

Tsarskoé-Sélo, le 30 *Mars*, 1906.

[13636] No. 56.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 23.)

(No. 114.)
Sir,

Berlin, April 17, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that His Majesty the German Emperor has conferred the First Class of the Order of the Red Eagle on Count Welsersheimb, the Austro-Hungarian Representative at the Morocco Conference, in consideration for his support of Germany at Algeciras.

At the same time, His Majesty addressed the following telegram to Count Goluchowski, which has been much commented on :—

"At the moment when, with the consent of your Most Gracious Sovereign, I am sending the Grand Cross of the Order of the Red Eagle to Count Welsersheimb to thank him for his successful efforts at Algeciras, I feel impelled to express to you from my heart my sincere thanks for your unwavering support of my Representatives—a noble act of the faithful ally. You have shown yourself a brilliant second in the students' duel ('Mensur'), and can be assured of similar service from me in a similar case.

"WILHELM. I.R."

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

[11898] No. 57.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

(Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1906.

AS a result of the International Conference held at Algeciras, a General Act has been negotiated, which provides, among other things, for the establishment of a State Bank in Morocco. The detailed provisions will be found in Articles 31–58 of the inclosed copy of the Act. It will be observed that the initial capital to be provided is fixed at a sum of between 15,000,000 fr. and 20,000,000 fr., to be provided, in equal parts by banks acting alone or for a syndicated group, designated, one for each country, by such of the twelve Signatory Powers as shall have notified their intention to participate to the Spanish Government within one month from the date of signature (7th April, 1906), two additional shares being allotted to the French Syndicate who concluded the Moorish Loan of 1904.

2. It is important for political, as well as for commercial reasons, that British interests should be represented in the bank, and Sir E. Grey desires to inform the Spanish Government in due course that this country intends to participate in the subscription of the capital. But as the amount of that capital falling to the share of this country is comparatively small, it is possible that first-class British houses may show some reluctance to take the matter up. On the other hand, as it is essential, in view of the engagements entered into by His Majesty's Government towards France that the British representation on the Council of the Bank should, as far as possible, work in general harmony with French interests, it would be advisable to exclude any firm whose position may not be considered such as to preclude the danger of any influence being on some future occasion brought to bear upon it by foreign Governments or financial groups unfriendly to France.

3. The situation created by the stipulations of the Algeciras Act in regard to the proposed State Bank is somewhat exceptional, in the sense that it has probably not hitherto fallen to His Majesty's Government to have to invite a financial house or Syndicate to take up an option secured, not at the instance of particular applicants, but in the interests of British trade generally, on the initiative of the Government itself. The Secretary of State, having no precedent to guide him, is in some doubt as to whether His Majesty's Government may be considered to be at liberty to approach one or more particular firms to the exclusion of others, or whether it is incumbent upon them more or less publicly to invite offers for any one able and willing, within the conditions laid down in the Act, to tender.

4. Messrs. Samuel Montagu and Co., of 60, Old Broad Street, who have an agency at Tangier, and who, acting for Sir E. Cassel, entered into negotiations with the Moorish Government for a large loan in 1903, as the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury will no doubt remember (see your letter of the 17th December, 1903), have expressed a desire to take up the matter. The loan fell through in 1903, but the inclosed copy of a letter recently received from the firm shows that they believe themselves entitled to special consideration in the present connection. On the other hand, in view of the fact that political considerations have to be taken into account, it may be desirable that the whole arrangements should be made with the Bank of England alone.

5. I am directed by Sir E. Grey to request that, in laying the above facts and considerations before the Lords Commissioners, you will move their Lordships to advise him as to the best course to adopt in the circumstances, and, if they see fit, to enter themselves into communication with such firm or firms as they may think advantageous.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[14390] No. 58.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 28.)

(No. 67. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 17, 1906.

NOW that the Conference at Algeciras has terminated its labours, it may not be without interest to examine the first impressions produced on the Moorish Government

and people by the decisions arrived at, though these impressions are necessarily but of a very general nature. There can be but little doubt that the manner of procedure adopted at the Conference came as a surprise to the Moorish Government. They regarded the Conference as a sort of Tribunal before which France, at their instance, was to be arraigned, Germany acting as the prosecuting counsel. In its note of invitation, and subsequently, the Moorish Government suggested that His Shereefian Majesty wished to introduce certain reforms, and only invited the advice of the Powers as to the manner of carrying these out. That quite a different procedure was adopted no doubt caused a painful impression. They now complain that nothing has been accomplished which in any way improves the position of His Majesty, and that the interests of foreign commerce alone have been taken into consideration, and that their control over the expenditure has been interfered with. They maintain that, far from strengthening the Sultan's authority and independence, the Conference has alienated from His Majesty the port districts from which His Majesty latterly received the most regular revenues, and that these have practically been handed over to the foreign Ministers at Tangier. The Pretender has shaken the authority of His Majesty in a large number of provinces. Many of the other provinces in the south which used to be obedient and tax-paying have now fallen into a mutinous and non-tax-paying condition; and without any army, or any money to maintain an army, the Makhzen cannot again reduce these provinces to obedience. The ports and their immediate districts alone remain to the Sultan as a financial asset, and now His Majesty finds the port receipts taken up almost wholly for interest on loans and for port improvements, and by the police scheme the rule over the ports is in a great measure to pass from the Sultan to the Ministers at Tangier. The prospect is presented to the Makhzen of certain improvements in the ports which, however useful to foreign traders, do not open the vista of any serious or general benefit to the country and its Sovereign. Again—if these are only the first steps—there arises the prospect of province after province behind the ports lapsing, as time goes on, permanently and irretrievably from the Sultan to the Powers.

Such is the general impression left on the Moorish mind by the skeleton programme drawn up by the Representatives of the Powers at Algeciras; nor can that mind see that, when the Regulations for carrying out that programme have been framed by the Ministers here, their position will in any way be improved.

They fully realize that they were deceived by the promises made to them by Count Tattenbach at Fez, and that the support given them by Germany at the Conference fell far short of what they were led to anticipate last summer.

With regard to the acceptance by the Sultan of the General Act of the Conference, the Viziers appear to be, as usual, divided. The Grand Vizier, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Minister of War have expressed themselves in favour of accepting, while the less serious but more grasping Viziers urge opposition. The Makhzen still appears to imagine that M. Malmusi, the Italian Minister, is going to Fez to further argue the matter treated of; but it will no doubt be gradually borne in upon His Majesty that M. Malmusi's mission is of a very different nature, and there can be little doubt that His Majesty will accept the inevitable, and cause the General Act to be signed, although there is already some inclination on the part of His Majesty and his advisers, as there was last summer, to say that he cannot adhere to decisions of which his people do not approve, and that the Notables, who are still assembled at Fez, must first be consulted. It is, however, most unlikely that they will be taken into account; and it is obvious that no "public opinion" on the subject exists, the general public in Morocco never having heard of the Conference, and those who have are entirely unable to appreciate the nature of the subjects under discussion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[14391] No. 59.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 28.)

(No. 68.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 19, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 286 of the 4th December, 1905, I have the honour to report that the Moorish Government, having practically exhausted the first half of the German loan, and being hard pressed for money, recently applied to the Agents

of the Contractors for permission to draw 50,000*l.* on the second half, even though the deed of mortgage on the Government properties had not yet been delivered to the Contractors.

This having been refused, the deed of mortgage on the properties at Tangier was delivered, together with particulars of the properties at Daralbaida, of which the deed of mortgage was promised to be delivered shortly.

The Contractors, however, replied that the Government properties at Tangier and Daralbaida were found to be insufficient security, and that they would not pay out the second half of the loan unless they received additional security in the shape of a mortgage on the Government properties at Mogador.

To this the Moorish Government have now agreed, and the loan Contractors have accordingly issued to them a further sum of 50,000*l.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[14394] No. 60.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 28.)

(No. 71.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 20, 1906.

THE antagonism dormant since the beginning of March between the tribes under the Governorship of Reisouli and the Anghera has been revived by an incident which has occurred in Tangier itself.

Three nights ago Reisouli, desiring to punish two members of the Schott family against whom he had a grievance, gave orders that they were to be shot wherever they were found. Having run them to ground in the centre of the town, Reisouli's men fired upon them, killing one on the spot and mortally wounding another. A third brother having vowed to avenge his brothers, it was decided by Reisouli's men that he must also be disposed of, and yesterday the whole town was searched for him. The search, however, proved ineffectual, and the house in which Schott usually lives was burned to the ground, while some damage was caused to the neighbouring houses by the firing. This Schott is a desperate character, and will not be satisfied to leave things as they are, and both parties are bringing large numbers of men into the town in preparation for a conflict.

However desirable it may be to get rid of this Schott, this indiscriminate firing, carried out, it is generally believed, with the connivance of the Sultan's Representative here, presents most serious inconveniences, and is not unlikely to cause trouble, which the Moorish Commissioner seems unable or unwilling to attempt to avert.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[14396] No. 61.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 28.)

(No. 73.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 20, 1906.

THERE appears to have arisen some misunderstanding as to the manner in which the official Arabic translation of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference was to be presented to the Moorish Government.

Although I received no official intimation on the subject, I was informed by Mr. Irwin, who was a member of the Interpreters' Commission, that there was an arrangement concluded at Algeciras to the effect that when the translation was finally concluded it should be handed by them here to the Moorish Delegates.

The Interpreters having returned here yesterday arranged to deliver the translation to the Delegates for transmission to Fez. At the last moment, however, the question having been submitted to the French and Spanish Ministers, this procedure was altered.

A copy of the translation has now been sent to Madrid to receive the signature of the Duc d'Almodovar, and this will be the document that M. Malmusi will convey to Fez for presentation to His Majesty the Sultan.

Another copy is being made here, and will receive the signatures of those of the Interpreting Commission who are here now, and will be presented to the Moorish Delegates to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[14397] No. 62.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 28.)

(No. 74. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, April 22, 1906.*

THE substance of a conversation which took place a few days ago between the Moorish Minister for Foreign Affairs and the French Vice-Consul at Fez, who has just reached there from Algeciras, has been communicated to me in a confidential manner. Ben Sliman began by stating that he regarded the outlook after the decisions of the Conference as simply hopeless. If the Makhzen assented to the Conference's decisions there was an end to the Moorish Government as a Government. The ports were thereby practically handed over for ever to the Powers. These were of importance to Europeans, and of a certain financial value to the Sultan, although they were but a small part of the country, and their populations a mere handful of those of the Sultan's subjects, who, in normal times, had acknowledged His Majesty's rule, and paid taxes. But the decisions of the Conference Ben Sliman considered, in practice if not in theory, left the Sultan no means or hopes of doing anything to re-establish order and restore prosperity to the vast mass of his people, to whose needs at large the proposed reforms were totally inadequate, and he was deeply disappointed with them.

His Excellency would, therefore, infinitely have preferred the reforms to have been so framed that the Powers would have exercised some kind of direction, assistance, and advice at the Court itself, the influence of which would have been, in course of time, felt throughout the country to the great advantage of all concerned. As it was, the Makhzen seemed to be left in as impotent and ridiculous a position as ever in the eyes of its subjects. Ben Sliman seemed to have no very clear idea, however, as yet, about what answer the Court would make to the Conference's decisions, but admitted that the Tazzi and Ben Aish groups would urge the Sultan, with all the weight of their influence, to withhold his consent to the reforms in question, and in any case to negotiate further over them; and who could tell whose views would prevail with the Sultan?

The above expression of opinion coincides in a great measure with the general view that I have reported in my despatch No. 67 of the 17th instant as being those held by the Makhzen.

At this distance I fear that it is difficult to form a very accurate opinion as to how far Ben Sliman was expressing his honest convictions, or how far he was speaking "for the gallery." I nevertheless feel convinced that however great may be the disappointment of Ben Sliman at the result of the Conference, he will, in spite of the timidity that characterises him where the Sultan is concerned, advise His Majesty to accept the inevitable and recommend him to adhere to the Acte Général.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[15022] No. 63.

Signor Tittoni to Sir Edward Grey—(Received May 3.)

(Translation.)
M. le Ministre, *Italian Embassy, London, April 30, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that Commendatore Malmusi, Italian Minister at Tangier, will leave towards the middle of next month for Fez, in charge of a Mission having for its object the fulfilment of the duty intrusted to him by the Representatives of the Powers which met at the recent International Conference of Algeciras, in the additional Protocol to the General Act signed on the 7th instant in that town.

The Italian Government confidently rely on the support which Commendatore Malmusi will meet with in the accomplishment of his Mission from His Britannic Majesty's Representative in Morocco, and have instructed me to convey to your Excellency the expression of these their sentiments, and of the hope that the British Government will furnish special instructions to their agents in this sense.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TITTONI.

[14953] No. 64.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 3.)

(No. 78.)
Sir, *Madrid, April 30, 1906.*

IT is stated in the press that at a Council of Ministers held on the 28th instant, it was resolved that the Bank of Spain, as being the National Bank, shall subscribe the share, which falls to Spain, of the capital required for the constitution of the Bank of Morocco. During the interval which elapses until the date of the subscription the matter will be deliberated upon in the Council of State, and after the General Committee has assembled and the Council has been authorized to open the subscription, the agreement will be approved by the Ministry of Finance, by means of a Royal Decree, as is done in similar cases.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

[15062] No. 65.

Sir Rennell Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 3.)

(No. 3.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Stockholm, May 3, 1906.*

I HAVE been confidentially informed by the French Chargé d'Affaires that his Government instructed him early to-day to see the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs and represent to him the hope entertained by the French Government that the share in the Morocco Bank allotted to Sweden would be renounced by her Government. My French colleague told me that M. de Trolle appeared undecided. The latter is making inquiries as to the possibility of legally ensuring the retention of the bank shares in this country, should Sweden decide to take up participation. No instructions to communicate with me on the subject have been sent to the French Chargé d'Affaires, but he thought that I might have received instructions to make similar representations.

Following for your secret information:—

According to the French Chargé d'Affaires, who says he has good reason to believe it, Germany has already approached bankers in this country with the object of eventually obtaining the transfer of any shares allotted to Sweden.

[14953] No. 66.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 25.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 4, 1906.*

GREAT BRITAIN intends to subscribe to the initial capital of the Moorish State Bank, thus availing herself of the right acquired under Article LVI of the Algeciras General Act. You should notify formally the Spanish Government to this effect not later than the 5th instant.

[15062] No. 67.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 2.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May* 4, 1906.

WE shall take no action in the matter reported in your telegram No. 3 of the 3rd instant concerning the Morocco State Bank unless we are approached by Germany or France.

[15256] No. 68.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 5.)

(No. 75. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 24, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 74 of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to report that the French Vice-Consul at Fez, who was at Algeciras during the Conference, has, at the desire of the Sultan, conferred at some length with the Sid Ben Sliman, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the "General Act of Algeciras," which is not yet in the hands of the Moorish Government.

The Sultan has also seen the Vice-Consul and spoken to him at length, but confines himself to inquiring as to the procedure at the Conference, the relations between the Representatives of the different Powers, and especially as to the terms on which they parted. This is very characteristic of the Sultan, who always takes a keen interest in ceremonials and the light side of matters, and has a profound dislike for complicated details, which he finds it difficult to master.

One point in M. Gaillard's conversation with the Sultan was not without interest. His Majesty was very anxious to know in what manner his ratification was to be given. This would amount almost to an admission that His Majesty has not the intention to object to the decisions, and will make no difficulty about appending his signature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[15257] No. 69.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 5.)

(No. 76.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 27, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatches Nos. 63 and 66 of the 8th and 13th instant, I have the honour to report that the state of affairs in northern Sus and the Marrakesh Atlas regions is becoming somewhat clearer, although dissensions between the Governors continue. These are encouraged by Muley Hafid, and at the proper moment his Highness will probably become a peacemaker and benefit himself. In the meantime he is playing off the two rival Chiefs, Kaid-el-Mtoogi and Kaid Anfloos, against each other.

The province of Ducala is still disturbed, and Rahamna is without Government authority.

Muley Hafid does not appear to have taken any further steps towards a general rebellion against the Makhzen.

The results of the Conference have not yet become known in those parts, but when they do the impression caused by the Sultan's surrender in the matter of the foreign police and port questions will inevitably produce an effect which will still further shatter the tottering authority of the Sultan in the southern districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[15402] No. 69*.

Mr. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 5.)

(No. 45.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May* 5, 1906.

INTENTION of His Majesty's Government to subscribe to the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank has been notified in writing to the Spanish Government this morning. They would like to be informed by what British bank the subscription will be taken up.

[15403] No. 70.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 6.)

(No. 15 A.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 6, 1906.*

THE Sultan has decided to sign "without demur or amendment" the General Act of the Algeciras Conference.

I have been informed of the above by the British Vice-Consul at Fez on the authority of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[15582] No. 71.

Signor Tittoni to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 7.)

(Translation.)
M. le Ministre, *Italian Embassy, May 3, 1906.*

WITH reference to my note of the 30th April last, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith copy of the special credentials which His Majesty the King of Italy has been pleased to grant to Commendatore Malmusi, Italian Minister at Tangier, for the mission with which he was charged by the Algeciras Conference to the Sultan of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TITTONI.

Inclosure in No. 71.

Credentials granted to Commendatore Malmusi by King of Italy.

(Translation.)

VICTOR EMANUEL III, by the grace of God and the will of the nation King of Italy, to the most High and Mighty Prince His Majesty Abd-el-Aziz, Emperor of Morocco.

Most High and Mighty Prince, my dear and good friend. A Conference having met, by your Majesty's invitation, at Algeciras, at which there assembled the Representatives of the Powers friendly to your Empire, the decisions reached by common agreement are now collated in a General Act to which the signatures of your Majesty's Delegates only are wanting, they having wished to reserve its acceptance for the high judgment of their Sovereign. The Conference have therefore desired, and I have most willingly consented, that my Minister accredited to your Court, who is also doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Tangier, should repair to the presence of your Majesty, should present to your Majesty the General Act which has been agreed upon, and, speaking in the name of all the Powers assembled at Algeciras, should ask for your Majesty's adhesion and your Majesty's entire ratification.

Your Majesty is aware of the affection which, as a tradition bequeathed us by our ancestors, unites me to your Majesty's person; these sentiments and the conviction that, by the adoption of the General Act in its entirety, much honour will accrue to your Majesty, and incalculable good to your Majesty's Empire, make me rejoice that the Powers should have intrusted this important duty to my Minister, whom I recommend by these presents to your Majesty's favour. I further wish your Majesty every happiness, while assuring your Majesty of my high esteem and my unalterable friendship.

Given in Rome, the 26th day of April, 1906.

Most affectionate and good friend,
(Signed) VICTOR EMANUEL.

(Counter-signed) GUICCIARDINI.

[15367] No. 72.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Villiers.

(No. 23. Confidential.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 7, 1906.*

WE are anxious that the British share in the Morocco State Bank should be taken up in such a way that the action and influence of the British Director will be used in accordance with our general policy and engagements, especially those arising from our Agreement with France.

Political considerations may from time to time occur in the working of the bank. Should this be so, we should hope in this, as in other matters, to find ourselves in accord with the Portuguese Representative. I hope, therefore, that the Portuguese share may be in the hands of the Bank of Portugal, or so arranged as to be in touch with, and under the influence of, the Portuguese Government.

I should be glad if you would take an opportunity of telling the Minister for Foreign Affairs the lines on which we are proceeding ourselves, and express our hope that the Portuguese Government will be able to approach the question from the same point of view.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[15925] No. 73.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 10.)

(No. 85.)

Sir, *Madrid, May 7, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note which I have addressed to the Spanish Government, in accordance with the instructions contained in your telegram No. 25 of the 4th instant, to the effect that Great Britain has the intention of availing herself of the right, under Article 56 of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference, of subscribing to the initial capital of the proposed Moorish State Bank.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador)
(Signed) FAIRFAX L. CARTWRIGHT.

Inclosure in No. 73.

Sir M. de Bunsen to the Duke of Almodovar.

Your Excellency, *Madrid, May 5, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received telegraphic instructions from His Majesty's Government to notify to the Spanish Government, under the terms of Article 56 of the General Act of the International Conference at Algeciras, that they have the intention of availing themselves of the right to subscribe for their share of the initial capital of the proposed Moorish State Bank.

I avail, &c.
(For the Ambassador)
(Signed) FAIRFAX L. CARTWRIGHT.

[15402] No. 74.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 53.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 10, 1906.*

I HAVE received Mr. Cartwright's telegram No. 45 of the 5th instant, reporting that he has notified to the Spanish Government the intention of His Majesty's Government to subscribe to the initial capital of the Moorish State Bank.

In reply to the inquiry of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs as to what British bank will take up the subscription, I have to point out that by the terms of

the General Act of the Morocco Conference it was necessary to notify by the 5th May the intention of His Majesty's Government to participate in the subscription to the initial capital of the bank; the interval of time available has, however, been too short to allow of detailed arrangements being made respecting the manner in which such participation will be effected.

You should therefore inform the Spanish Minister of State that the selection of the particular bank or Syndicate, in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 56 of the Algeciras Act, is still under the consideration of His Majesty's Government, and particulars will be furnished as soon as a decision has been reached.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[16125] No. 75.

Señor de Bernabé to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 11.)

(Translation.)

Sir, *London, May 10, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Government of the King, my august Sovereign, state that they themselves, as well as the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of the German Empire, of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, of France, of Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, the Russian Empire, and Sweden, have, in conformity with Article LVI of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference, decided to take up part of the capital of the future State Bank of Morocco, and that, with the object of fulfilling the provisions of Article LVII of the said Act, it is necessary for the British banking group to designate their Delegate for the purpose of serving, together with the Delegates of the other countries, on the special Committee which is to be charged with the task of drawing up the statutes.

The Spanish Government, with the object of giving the greatest possible facilities, propose that the meeting shall be held at Madrid from the 20th to the 24th in the building of the Bank of Spain.

The Minister of State also requests me to point out that the term fixed in the same Article LVII expires on the 26th instant, so that necessity exists for an immediate decision and reply to what I have the honour to bring to your knowledge in the present note.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) L. POLO DE BERNABÉ.

[16262] No. 76.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 12.)

(No. 77.)

Sir, *Tangier, May 5, 1906.*

M. MALMUSI, the Italian Minister, came to see me to-day to inform me that he had received a notification from the Court to the effect that the escort and caravan which was to convey him to Fez was ready, and about to start from that city about four days ago. His Excellency added that, as he was going on behalf of the Governments represented at Algeciras, he wished to convey this news to me, and to say he hoped to leave here about the 15th instant.

M. Malmusi added that the intimation had been accompanied by a very polite and cordial letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, bidding him welcome in the name of the Sultan. No reference had been made to the object of his mission, but, as the letter was couched in such very courteous terms, he considered that the chances of obstruction on the part of the Sultan and his Government were practically eliminated.

Mohammed-el-Mokhri, the Sultan's Delegate at Algeciras, has now been called by the Sultan to Fez by a polite letter. He is, I am informed, pleased at this decision, as he contemplated the possibility of having fallen into irretrievable disgrace with His Majesty, owing to the results of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16263] No. 77.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 12.)

(No. 78.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 5, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 76 of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to report that from news received from a native source from Morocco City, dated the 30th April, it would appear that Kaid Taib el Gundafi, who had reached Morocco City on his way back from the Court to his tribe, had on several occasions requested an audience of the Sultan's Viceroy, but had not been received by him.

Becoming suspicious, he, with about 120 mounted men of his tribe, made their escape from the town by shooting off the lock of the Dukala gate during the night. When last heard of he was reported to be surrounded by the tribesmen and country Governors who are hostile to him.

My informant tells me that if this Kaid is disposed of, as now appears likely, it will materially strengthen the hands of those in Southern Morocco who wish to support Muley Hafid, with the view to placing him on the throne in place of the present Sultan.

Should I receive confirmation of this news I will report further on the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16264] No. 78.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 12.)

(No. 79.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 6, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 75 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to report that on the 1st instant Ben Sliman, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, informed Mr. MacLeod, the British Vice-Consul at Fez, that the Makhzen had now carefully considered the General Act of the Conference; that it would all do good; and, withal, that it was not much they were asked to do, so the Sultan would sign it without demur or amendment. His Excellency authorized Mr. MacLeod to convey this information to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16125] No. 79.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 12, 1906.

WITH reference to my previous letter of to-day's date, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you the accompanying translation of a note from the Spanish Ambassador relative to the proposed Morocco State Bank.*

After notifying that, besides Spain and Great Britain, the Governments of Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, and Sweden have declared their intention of participating in the subscription to the initial capital of the Bank, the note refers to Article LVII of the Algeciras Act, which makes provision for the drawing up of the statutes of the Morocco State Bank by a Special Committee consisting of Delegates nominated by the banks or syndicates representing the several participating countries.

This Committee is required, under the Article referred to, to meet at a place chosen by itself within three weeks from the "closing of the subscription."

The Spanish Government apparently interpret this expression as signifying the date by which the several Powers have notified their intention of participating in the

* No. 75.

subscription. That date was the 5th May. Consequently it is held that the Committee must meet within three weeks of the 5th May, or not later than the 26th May. The Spanish Government suggest Madrid as the place of meeting, and invite the Delegates to assemble on the 20th May.

From the penultimate paragraph of the Ambassador's note, it would seem that the meetings of the Special Committee are intended to terminate before the 26th May. This, however, is not stipulated in the General Act, which requires merely that the Committee shall assemble not later than that date.

Sir E. Grey has no reason to suppose that any of the other Powers interested will make any difficulty in accepting the proposals of the Spanish Government. In these circumstances, it is clearly desirable that the British Government should as soon as possible be in a position to notify the bank or syndicate selected by them to represent British interests in the Morocco State Bank, and that the bank or syndicate so selected should send a Delegate to Madrid in time to take part in the work of the Committee, which is to meet at that capital on the 20th May.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. GORST.

[16499] No. 80.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 14.)

(No. 80.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 7, 1906.

THE sudden determination on the part of the Sultan and the Makhzen to accept without question the conditions laid down at Algeciras and sign the General Act, as recorded in my despatch No. 79 of the 6th instant, is not at first sight easy to explain.

It appears to have been provoked by a rumour which reached Fez to the effect that, in the event of the Makhzen delaying sending the caravan and escort, M. Malmusi had determined to make his own arrangements and dispense with the assistance of the Makhzen. This would have been taken as a great slight to the Sultan and the Moorish Government, which they were anxious to avoid.

The Makhzen was apparently desirous of dispensing with M. Malmusi's Mission, for Sid Ben Sliman, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, a few days ago asked the French Vice-Consul whether, in view of the fact that the Sultan had decided to sign the General Act, he thought it would still be necessary for the Mission to come to Fez. M. Gaillard replied that, while without instructions on the subject, any suggestion to this effect would, in his opinion, be somewhat wanting in courtesy to the Powers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16374] No. 81.

Sir A. Hardinge to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 14.)

(No. 74.)

Sir, *Brussels, May* 12, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the draft Law or Bill which has been submitted to the Belgian Parliament for obtaining its sanction to the General Act of the Conference at Algeciras and the annexed Additional Protocol.* I have at the same time the honour to transmit the Report of the Committee of the Chamber of Representatives on this subject.* The "exposé des motifs" which precedes the Bill, a short measure containing only two Articles, deals with the instructions addressed by the Belgian Government to its Representatives at the Algeciras Conference. It states that M. Joostens and M. de Buisseret were directed to bear in mind that Belgium had no political aims in Morocco; that her interests were purely economical; that they were not, therefore, to intervene in questions concerning the political influence claimed by certain interested States, but if such questions arose they were to support such

* Not printed.

solutions as mediating Powers might put forward in order to reconcile conflicting views. These instructions are alleged to have been satisfactorily executed by the two Belgian Plenipotentiaries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

[16615] No. 82.

Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received May 14.)

Sir, *Treasury Chambers, May 14, 1906.*

WITH reference to Sir Eric Barrington's letter of the 27th ultimo and Sir Eldon Gorst's letter of the 12th instant, on the subject of the British participation in the proposed State Bank of Morocco, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to transmit, to be laid before the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the inclosed copy of a letter which they caused to be addressed to the Bank of England on the 9th instant and of the Bank's reply, dated the 11th instant.

It will be seen that the Bank of England is unable to accept the invitation to subscribe or to manage the subscription of the British share of the capital. The Bank, however, indicates that the subscription might fittingly be intrusted to the same group of persons who in 1903 undertook to make an advance on British account to the Government of Morocco. My Lords have no objection to offer to the adoption of this course. The special conditions attaching to the subscription are such as to make its allocation by any kind of public tender impossible.

As the arrangements for the advance of 1903 were carried out under the supervision of the Foreign Office, my Lords presume that, if the Secretary of State concurs in this view, he will communicate with the subscribers to the previous advance in order to ascertain if they are prepared to undertake the Bank subscription on the terms proposed, so that a Delegate may be nominated to attend the meeting at Madrid on the 20th May.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. W. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 82.

Treasury to Bank of England.

Gentlemen, *Treasury Chambers, May 9, 1906.*

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to transmit for your information the inclosed copy of the General Act, dated the 7th April, 1906, which was negotiated at the International Conference at Algeciras, and which provides for the establishment of a State Bank in Morocco. The detailed provisions as to the functions and constitution of the bank will be found in Articles 31 to 58.

2. I am to point out that under Article 51 four censors of the bank, whose duties are described in Article 52, are to be appointed by the Bank of England, the Bank of Germany, the Bank of France, and the Bank of Spain, subject to the concurrence of their respective Governments. The necessity for the appointment of these officers will not, however, arise until the bank has been duly constituted.

3. This county secures the right to participate in the subscription of the bank's capital under Article 56, and it is desirable that His Majesty's Government should be satisfied that the subscription will be taken up by banks or firms of appropriate standing on such conditions as the circumstances require.

4. As regards the amount of the subscription, I am to point out that the original capital of the bank may be fixed at any amount between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 fr. (say 600,000*l.* to 800,000*l.*). The number of portions into which this total will be divided depends upon the number of the Signatory Powers who decide to participate. If all the thirteen Powers (including Morocco) claim to do so, the British share will be one-fifteenth of the whole.

5. In view of the political circumstances affecting Morocco, and of the proposed constitution of the bank, it will be necessary for His Majesty's Government to reserve some control over the action of the British subscribers in matters which may affect

political interests. It must therefore be stipulated that the representative of the British subscribers on the Conseil d'Administration shall be designated either by or at least with the concurrence of the Government; and also that it shall be in the power of the Government at any time, if they are not satisfied with the representative's action, to require his removal at the earliest opportunity. In matters affecting general policy the representative will be obliged at all times to act in accordance with any instructions that the Government may give. Further, it is obviously desirable to insure as far as possible that the subscribers themselves shall not be persons or firms whose interests or connections are likely to cause their participation to be in any way a source of embarrassment to His Majesty's Government.

6. It appears to my Lords that the best guarantee for smooth working under these conditions would be afforded if the Bank of England were willing itself to undertake to manage the British subscription. It would not be necessary for this purpose that the bank should itself subscribe the whole, or perhaps any portion, of the capital, but the bank would arrange to allot and to receive the subscriptions, and would represent the subscribers as the "chef de groupe" contemplated by Article 56.

7. If, however, the Bank of England for any reason considers itself precluded from participating to this extent, my Lords trust that they may still not be denied its good offices in a matter which is so specially within its competence. In that case they would ask you to be so good as to submit to them a list of persons or firms whom you can recommend as being suitable to be intrusted with the subscription and willing to undertake it on the conditions already indicated. You would, of course, make such inquiries as you may think fit among eligible firms before tendering your advice.

8. I am to add that the General Act has not yet, so far as my Lords are aware, been signed on behalf of the Government of Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. W. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 82.

Bank of England to Treasury.

Sir, *Bank of England, May 11, 1906.*

I AM directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Edward Hamilton's letter of the 9th instant, inclosing copy of the General Act, dated the 7th April, 1906, which was negotiated at the International Conference at Algeciras, and which provides for the establishment of a State Bank in Morocco.

It is noted that, under Article 51, four censors of the Bank, whose duties are described in Article 52, are to be appointed by the Bank of England, the Bank of Germany, the Bank of France, and the Bank of Spain, subject to the concurrence of their respective Governments.

It is also noted that this country secures the right to participate in the subscription of the bank's capital under Article 56, the number of portions into which this capital of from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 fr. will be divided depending upon the number of the Signatory Powers who decide to participate.

I am instructed by the Governor to inform you that the Bank of England does not see its way to undertake to arrange the British subscription, neither would it be possible for the Bank to allot or to receive the subscriptions, or to represent the subscribers as the "chef de groupe," contemplated by Article 56.

The Governor is informed that an advance of 300,000*l.* was made on British account to the Morocco Government in 1903, and he has every reason to believe that the persons who had the management of this affair would represent a group of high financial responsibility.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. G. NAIRNE,
Chief Cashier.

[16603] No. 83.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 14.)

(No. 47.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 14, 1906.*

THE action of the Powers with regard to their participation in the Morocco Bank has been notified to me in a communication which I received from the Spanish Government to-day, and in which it is observed that, while the United Kingdom has signified its intention to take part, the Spanish Government have not yet been informed of the name of the bank by which the English shares will be taken up, or of the amount that will be subscribed.

[16603] No. 84.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 56.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 15, 1906.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's telegram No. 47 of the 14th instant, intimating that the Spanish Government are awaiting a further communication giving particulars as to the bank selected to take up the British portion of the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank, and the exact amount subscribed for the purpose in this country.

2. As regards the first of these two points, I would refer your Excellency to my despatch No. 53 of the 10th instant, explaining the reasons for which His Majesty's Government do not consider that they were under any obligation to give by the 5th May the detailed information desired, but promising an early decision.

3. The inquiry as to the amount of the capital to be subscribed in Great Britain appears to me to be based on a misapprehension of the stipulations contained in chapter 3 of the Algeciras General Act. It is laid down in Article 56 that the several participating countries shall subscribe in equal proportions to the capital, the total amount of which is, under Article 55, to be fixed within the limits of 15,000,000 fr. to 20,000,000 fr. by the Special Committee of the Delegates of the subscribing groups contemplated by Article 57. The Spanish Government has, in the terms of the note addressed to me by the Spanish Ambassador on the 10th instant (a translation of which is sent herewith), suggested the meeting of those Delegates at Madrid on the 20th instant, and His Majesty's Government hope to arrange for the attendance of the British Representative on that day. Pending the deliberations of that meeting, they are clearly not in a position to express any opinion as to the amount of capital to be subscribed in this country, except that it will be equal to the amounts respectively contributed by the other participating countries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[16857] No. 85.

Verbal communication made by Baron Stumm, May 16, 1906.

ACCORDING to Articles 43 and 47 of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference, the Regulations concerning the relations between the State Bank of Morocco and the Government of Morocco, as well as the bye-laws of that Bank, have to be drawn up by a special Committee, and must be approved of by the Censors to be appointed by the German Imperial Bank as well as by the Banks of England, Spain, and France.

In the opinion of the Imperial Government, it would not be desirable that the special Committee should pass Resolutions which cannot be expected to receive the approval of the Censors. The Imperial Government think, in these circumstances, that it might be advisable to appoint the Censors as soon as possible, and to instruct them to start immediately for the seat of the deliberations of the special Committee. By doing so, an opportunity would be afforded to ascertain in time and in a suitable manner whether the Censors have to raise any objections.

The Imperial Government are prepared, in case the other Powers concerned should agree, to send their Censor to Madrid.

As regards the tenure of office of the Censors, fixed at four years according to Article 51 of the General Act, the Imperial Government think it should be reckoned from the beginning of the deliberations.

Inclosure 1 in No. 85.

Note by the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin.

PAR voie télégraphique, mon Gouvernement me charge d'informer votre Excellence que les Gouvernements d'Espagne, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Belgique, de France, de Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie, des Pays-Bas, de Portugal, de Russie, et de Suède, de conformité avec l'Article 56 de l'Acte Général de la Conférence d'Algésiras, se sont déclarés prêts à souscrire à la participation dans la future Banque du Maroc.

Pour l'accomplissement des dispositions de l'Article 57 de l'Acte précité, il est nécessaire que le groupe Allemand désigne un Délégué pour constituer, avec ceux des autres pays, un Comité spécial chargé de la rédaction des statuts, et le Gouvernement Espagnol, en vue de faciliter cette tâche, propose que la réunion ait lieu à Madrid, dans le local de la Banque d'Espagne, entre le 20 et le 24 courant, car le terme fixé par l'Article 57 finit le 26.

Le 10 Mai, 1906.

Inclosure 2 in No. 85.

Note addressed to the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin by the German Foreign Office.

EN réponse à la lettre que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le 10 Mai dernier, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir que, de l'avis du Gouvernement Impérial, le délai de quatre semaines prévu à l'Article 56, alinéa 3, de l'Acte Général de la Conférence d'Algésiras pour la souscription à la Banque d'État du Maroc projetée n'a pas encore expiré. D'après la disposition précitée, ce délai ne devait être compté qu'à partir de la signature de l'Acte Général par les Représentants des Puissances. Or, l'Acte n'a pas encore été signé par le Maroc, vu que jusqu'à maintenant l'adhésion de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, qui, d'après le Protocole Additionnel, alinéa 5, doit tenir lieu de la signature de l'Acte par les Délégués du Maroc, n'a pas été donnée. On ne saurait donc dire que le délai de quatre semaines ait déjà commencé à courir. Les Gouvernements des États-Unis d'Amérique et du Maroc, qui, d'après la lettre de votre Excellence, n'ont encore fait aucune déclaration sur l'usage qu'ils comptent faire de leur droit, pourraient donc se prévaloir de leur droit de souscription encore dans un délai de quatre semaines, qui ne compteront qu'à partir de la date de l'adhésion du Maroc. Ils auraient donc le droit de demander à faire prendre part les représentants de leurs groupes souscripteurs aux délibérations du Comité spécial, qui, d'après l'Article 57, alinéa 1, doit se réunir dans un délai de trois semaines après la clôture de la souscription. Ce droit aurait d'autant plus d'importance pour le Maroc que le Comité spécial n'est pas seulement chargé d'élaborer les statuts de la Banque (l'Article 47), mais suivant l'Article 43 d'établir également le règlement sur les rapports entre la Banque et le Gouvernement Marocain. Dans le cas où un des deux Gouvernements ferait une pareille demande, le Gouvernement Impérial devrait se réserver sa prise de position sur la question de savoir si la réunion du Comité à une date plus rapprochée, proposition qui a été faite par l'Espagne, répondra oui ou non aux stipulations de l'Acte Général.

Toutefois, le Gouvernement Impérial, bien entendu avec cette réserve, se déclare prêt, pourvu que toutes les Puissances qui ont participé à la Conférence donnent leur assentiment à tenir compte de la proposition Espagnole et à faire prendre les mesures nécessaires pour que le Délégué du groupe Allemand se rende aux délibérations qui doivent commencer entre le 20 et le 24 Mai à Madrid.

Le 12 Mai, 1906.

[16857] No. 86.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 62.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May* 16, 1906.

PLEASE ascertain the views of the French Government on the suggestion made by the German and Spanish Governments that the Censors of the Moorish State Bank and the Delegates of the subscribing banks should be appointed simultaneously, and that they should proceed together to Madrid, and there draft the Statutes, which, under the terms of the General Act, have to be approved by the Censors.

The German Government also propose that the first meeting of the Committee of Delegates be considered the day on which the four-years appointment of the Censors begins.

It is essential that an early decision on these points be reached.

[16857] No. 87.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 26.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May* 16, 1906.

A COMMUNICATION has been received from the Spanish Ambassador to the effect that the three-weeks interval from the closure of subscription to the Moorish State Bank ends on the 26th instant, and that the Spanish Government consider that the Statutes of the bank should be drawn up by the 24th instant. They therefore invite the Delegates of the subscribing groups to meet at Madrid on the 20th instant for this purpose.

Please inform the Spanish Government that, in our opinion, the requirements of the General Act will be fulfilled if the Delegates meet by the 26th, and express the hope that they will consent to the meeting of the Delegates being postponed till that date.

[16893] No. 88.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 17.)

(No. 87.)
Sir, *Madrid, May* 14, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith translation of a communication received to-day from the Spanish Government reporting the notifications received from the various Governments interested in the Algeciras Conference as to their participation in the subscription of the capital of the Morocco State Bank.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

Inclosure in No. 88.

Memorandum respecting the Morocco State Bank.

(Translation.)
MANNER in which the Powers represented at the Algeciras Conference have exercised their right of participation in subscribing the Bank capital.

Germany.—German Ambassador in Madrid, by a note of the 2nd instant, communicates the intention of his Government to exercise their right, and names as head of the German group Mendelssohn and Co., of Berlin.

Austria-Hungary.—The Ambassador, in a note of the 3rd instant, reports that a Consortium has been formed, composed of the Allgemeine Österreichische Bodencreditanstalt, Österreichische Creditanstalt für Handel und Gewerbe, Anglo-Österreichische Bank, Vieder-Österreichische Escompte Gesellschaft, Österreichische Landesbank de Vienna, and the Peter Ungarische Commerzialbank, Ungarische

Allgemeine Creditbank, and the Ungarische Escompte and Wechslerbank de Buda-Pesth. This group will be represented by the Allgemeine Österreichische Bodencreditanstalt de Vienna.

Belgium.—The Minister, under date of the 4th instant, reports that his Government will participate, and that a Bill is now before the Chambers for approving the General Act of the Algeciras Conference. No information is given as to groups or their representatives.

Spain.—Minister of Finance, in a Royal Order of the 3rd instant, reports that the Bank of Spain has undertaken to secure the subscription of the capital for which Spain is responsible.

France.—The Ambassador, in a note of the 1st instant, reports that his Government will participate, and has named the Bank of Paris and the Bank of the Netherlands for the subscription of the French share. Notification is also given that the Consortium of the Morocco Loan of 1904 is prepared to subscribe the proportion assigned to it.

Great Britain.—The Ambassador, in a note of the 5th instant, reports that his Government will avail themselves of their privilege. He makes no mention of the groups that will take shares, or of their representative.

Italy.—A note of the 3rd instant reports that a group has already been formed under the Bank of Italy, which will represent it.

Netherlands.—A note of the 4th instant reports that the group formed will consist of the Bank of Amsterdam, of the Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij, and of MM. Hops and Co.; and, as representing the group, designates the Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij.

Portugal.—The note of the 5th instant merely notifies that the Portuguese Government will subscribe the proportion assigned to it.

Russia.—A note, dated the 26th ultimo, reported that the Government would be responsible for its share, and that the Minister of Finance had delegated this responsibility to the Northern Bank of St. Petersburgh.

Sweden.—A note of the 4th reports that the Swedish Government has appointed the Skandinaviska Kreditaktiebolaget, of Stockholm, to exercise their rights in the name of a group composed of this bank, and of the Stockholm Enskilda Bank and Stockholm Handels Bank.

United States.—The Minister reports, in a note of the 7th instant, that as his Government considers that it is not indispensable that the United States should subscribe their share of the capital, this not being required for the constitution of the Bank, that they therefore do not intend to avail themselves of their rights under Article 56 of the Algeciras Act. The note adds that the American Government has been advised by one of those having the right of intervention in the control of the Bank that the four weeks allowed for decision as to participation should be counted from the date of the Sultan's signature as one of the Powers represented at the Conference.

[16990] No. 89.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 17.)

(No. 48.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May* 17, 1906.

THE Spanish Government quite agree with the view expressed in your telegram No. 26, that the Delegates need not arrive at Madrid before the 26th instant. The suggestion as to meetings between the 20th and 24th instant was made in case the Delegates should find it convenient to meet informally before meeting officially for the first time.

The Spanish Government do not think it probable that the Special Committee of the Morocco State Bank will be able to do more than lay down the broad lines of its constitution. Before separating they would themselves choose their next place of meeting, and agree on a date, perhaps two or three months hence.

The date of meeting, as fixed, will be extremely inconvenient to all concerned, as it coincides with the Royal marriage, and accommodation during the wedding week is hardly to be had, but, as date was formally fixed by Conference, the Spanish Government do not see how it can be changed now.

The suggestion has, I hear, been made by the German Government that, in order, as far as possible, to prevent a possible divergence of views between the four censors to be appointed under the General Act and the Special Committee, the two bodies should meet concurrently, so that the agreement of the censors with proposals of Special Committee may be signified at once.

[16991] No. 90.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 17.)

(No. 49.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 17, 1906.*

OWING to the inconvenience of Special Committee of the Morocco Bank meeting in Madrid on the 26th instant, mentioned in my preceding telegram, French Ambassador intends to suggest to French Government that it would be much more convenient for all concerned if the meeting place were transferred to Paris. If this can be arranged, no objections would be raised by Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, who explains that no mandate for fixing the place of meeting is claimed by Spain.

In the mistaken belief that the Special Committee was invited to meet on the 20th instant, the Italian Delegate is already on his way to Madrid.

[16990] No. 91.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 64.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 17, 1906.*

THE opinion is expressed by the Governments of the United States and of Germany that the interval of four weeks from the signature of the General Act, allowed under Article 56 for the notification by the Signatory Powers of their intention to subscribe to the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank, should be reckoned from the date of the Sultan's adhesion to the Act, which, according to the third paragraph of the Additional Protocol, is held to be equivalent to the signature of the Act by the Moorish Delegates.

Sir A. Nicolson supports this view, and if it is accepted the Sultan would still have the right to subscribe to the initial capital if he wished to do so. There would then be no need for the hurried dispatch of Delegates to Madrid by the 26th May, as the three weeks from the close of the subscription within which, according to Article 57, the Delegates of the subscribing groups have to assemble would be reckoned from the date of such a notification by the Sultan, and not from the 5th May.

If the French Government concur it would be advisable that the British, French, and German Ambassadors at Madrid should make representations in this sense to the Spanish Government and request that the meeting be postponed.

I am sending you a copy of the General Act by post.

[16988] No. 92.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 53.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 17, 1906.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of the General Act of the International Conference of Algeciras,* as also of the Additional Protocol, which has regard to the question of obtaining the ratification of the former document by His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco.†

You will perceive that, in consequence of the decisions of the Conference, various special duties will devolve on the Diplomatic Body at Tangier. In regard to these, separate instructions will if necessary be sent to you, but, should you at any time find yourself under the necessity of acting without such instructions, you should

* General Act. † Additional Protocol.

confer with your French colleague and act generally in agreement with him. Unless otherwise instructed, you should avoid taking the initiative yourself in cases when common action by members of the Diplomatic Body is called for.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[11933] No. 93.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 55.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 17, 1906.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch received from the Delegate of His Majesty's Government at the Conference of Algeciras,* from which you will observe that that assembly decided to refer to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier the question of regulating the liquor traffic in Morocco.

His Majesty's Government attach great importance to this matter. They have had considerable experience in the enforcement of measures aimed at the restriction of the consumption of spirituous liquors in those of their African territories which fall within the liquor zone established by the Brussels Act of 1890. I inclose, for your information, a copy of Article XCI of that Act,† the provisions of which apply to regions where, owing to religious beliefs and other reasons, the native population does not habitually consume distilled liquors. Such is, no doubt, the case in Morocco, whose population profess the Mahometan religion. His Majesty's Government are therefore of opinion that the provisions of Article XCI could, with advantage, be applied in Morocco. The main features of the system contemplated therein are (1) the prohibition of the local manufacture of spirituous liquors; (2) the prohibition of the sale of such liquors to natives, and (3) the laying down of the conditions under which alone limited quantities may be imported for the exclusive use of the non-native population.

There should, I think, be no difficulty in arriving at an understanding with the Moorish Government on the one band and the Treaty Powers on the other, for the enactment of legislation on the above basis, and the more stringent supervision of an improved customs service stipulated for by the Algeciras Act will no doubt facilitate its enforcement. It may be of advantage, in discussing the matter with your foreign colleagues, to have before you the text of Regulations enacted for the same purpose, and under similar conditions in British territories. I accordingly transmit a copy of "The East Africa Liquor Ordinance, 1902,"‡ which may afford you useful guidance in the matter. I should, however, observe that sections 9–12 of that ordinance dealing with local distillation were subsequently repealed as not being in strict accordance with the Brussels Act, and that the provisions of an amending ordinance of 1903 (of which a copy is also inclosed)§ were substituted for them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[16615] No. 94.

Foreign Office to the Governor of the Bank of England.

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 17, 1906.*

WITH reference to the correspondence which has passed between you and the Treasury on the subject of the State Bank to be established in Morocco under the provisions of the recently negotiated Algeciras General Act, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you the accompanying copy of the Act,‖ and to invite your attention to the stipulations concerning the appointment of Censors which are contained in Articles LI to LIII.

It was the unanimous wish of the Representatives of the Powers assembled in

* No. 35. † Article XCI of Brussels Convention, 1890.
‡ East Africa Protectorate Ordinance, No. 27, 1902. § East Africa Protectorate Ordinance No. 12, 1903.
‖ Printed elsewhere.

Conference at Algeciras that the four Censors should be appointed respectively by the State Banks of France, Germany, and Spain, and by the Bank of England, and as this arrangement was adopted as the best means of conciliating the conflicting views of certain of the Powers seriously at variance respecting the functions and administration of the Morocco State Bank, Sir E. Grey feels confident that the Bank of England will be willing, in consideration of the important political interests involved, to meet the wishes of the Powers and undertake the duty imposed on it by the stipulation above referred to.

A reference to Article XLVII of the General Act will show that the Statutes of the Morocco State Bank will have to be approved by the Censors. The Statutes are to be drafted by a Special Committee of Delegates representing the several subscribing groups, and this Committee is expected to meet at Madrid not later than the 26th instant. A suggestion has now been put forward by the German and Spanish Governments that, in order to avoid the inconvenience and delay which might be caused by any provision of the Statutes as drafted by the Committee of Delegates not meeting with the approval of the Censors, and so necessitating amendment and reference back to the Committee, the Censors should proceed to Madrid simultaneously with the Delegates, and remain on the spot during the latter's deliberations.

Such an arrangement seems to His Majesty's Government reasonable, and if accepted by France, in addition to Germany and Spain, should, if possible, be accepted by this country also. This would necessitate the immediate nomination of the British Censor, and I am accordingly to express the hope that the Bank of England may be able and willing to proceed to a selection forthwith. In the event of a suitable selection at short notice presenting practical difficulties, I am to suggest for the confidential consideration of the Bank that it might perhaps be possible to secure the services of Sir E. FitzGerald Law, K.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., late financial member of the Council of the Governor-General of India, who is at present at Athens, but who could no doubt be asked by telegraph to return to London at once if willing to accept the position. It will be observed that according to Article LIII of the Algeciras Act, the salary and travelling expenses of the Censors are to be fixed by the Committee of Delegates, and paid ultimately by the Morocco State Bank.

In view of the shortness of the time available before a decision must be communicated to the Spanish Government, Sir E. Grey would be greatly obliged for an early reply to the present letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HARDINGE.

[17009] No. 95.

Sir G. Bonham to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 18.)

(No. 26.)
Sir,

Berne, May 16, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 17 of the 1st ultimo, I have the honour to report that on the 14th instant President Ferrer received the long-expected communication from the President of the Algeciras Conference, informing him of the decisions arrived at in so far as they concern Switzerland, viz., the post of Inspector-General of Police and the Bank of Morocco, and intimating that further particulars will follow as soon as the various States have ratified the decisions of the Conference.

The President has replied acknowledging the receipt of the Duke of Almodovar's communication, adding that he would await the further communication before laying the matter before the Federal Council.

The note is dated the 7th ultimo, and the delay of six weeks which has occurred in its reaching its destination is attributed to its having been mislaid in consequence of the absence of the Spanish Minister from Berne.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

[17068] No. 96.

Note verbale communicated by the Spanish Ambassador, May 18, 1906.

(Translation.)

THE Spanish Ambassador has the honour to inform His Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the German Government propose that the Censors of the Bank of Morocco should be appointed at the same time as the Committee charged with drawing up the Statutes, and that they should meet simultaneously at Madrid, in order to facilitate the work, seeing that the Censors have to approve the Statutes.

The Government of His Catholic Majesty consider that the proposal should be accepted.

The German Government propose, further, that the term of four years fixed for the Censors under Article 51 of the General Act of Algeciras should commence from the date of the meeting of the Committee of Statutes.

Spanish Embassy, May 16, 1906.

[17123] No. 97.

Mr. O'Beirne to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 18.)

(No. 41.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Paris, May 18, 1906.

SIR FRANCIS BERTIE made a communication yesterday to M. Bourgeois, on the subject of the Morocco State Bank in the sense of your telegrams Nos. 62 and 63. A letter was received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning, in which his Excellency signified his concurrence, both in the view expressed in your telegram No. 63, as to the date of meeting of Delegates, and also in the proposal to appoint Censors immediately.

I will call on Minister for Foreign Affairs at once, and communicate to him the suggestion contained in your telegram No. 64, which has just been received.

[17137] No. 98.

Mr. O'Beirne to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 18.)

(No. 42.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Paris, May 18, 1906.

I MADE a communication to-day to the "Directeur Politique" of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your telegram No. 64 on the subject of the Morocco State Bank.

M. Louis said that the suggested interpretation of Article 57 of the General Act of the Conference seemed hardly in accordance with its intention, but he seemed to consider that the French Government could nevertheless accept it. He promised that a definite reply on the subject should be sent shortly.

The Delegates of several subscribing banks had arranged, he said, to hold a preliminary meeting on the 21st instant in Paris, and he urged that, whatever might be the eventual decision with regard to the date of the formal meeting of Delegates, the British Delegate should also be present at this informal meeting.

He told me in confidence that the possibility of the formal meeting of the Special Committee of Delegates taking place in Paris had been contemplated by the French Government.

[17123] No. 99.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 28.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, May* 18, 1906.

YOUR telegram No. 48.

We understand that as a result of communications between Spanish and French Governments it has been ascertained that a preference is felt among subscribing groups for Paris as the more convenient place of meeting of Delegates. His Majesty's Government, whilst thanking Spanish Government for offer of their hospitality, agree to meeting taking place at Paris, if other Powers concur.

Spanish Government will have received German proposal that the Censors should be appointed at once, and directed to proceed to place of meeting of Delegates, to facilitate drafting of Statutes which must be approved by Censors, latter's appointments to date from first meeting of Delegates. His Majesty's Government concur, and will arrange that Censor appointed by Bank of England shall accordingly attend at Paris, if other Powers agree.

British bank selected will be notified shortly.

[17129] No. 100.

Bank of England to Foreign Office.—(Received May 18.)

Sir, *Bank of England, May* 18, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, with reference to the correspondence which has lately passed between the Bank of England and the Treasury on the subject of the State Bank to be established in Morocco, under the provisions of the recently negotiated Algeciras General Act, a copy of which you are good enough to inclose.

I am directed by the Governor to say that the Bank of England will be happy, in consideration of the important political interests involved, to undertake the duty imposed on it by the stipulations referred to in this Act.

The Bank of England is anxious to do everything possible to meet the wishes of His Majesty's Government, and is willing to agree to the suggestion you are good enough to make that Sir E. FitzGerald Law, K.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., should be nominated as British Censor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. G. NAIRNE, *Chief Cashier.*

[17123] No. 101.

Sir Edward Grey to Señor de Bernabé.

Your Excellency, *Foreign Office, May* 18, 1906.

WITH reference to your note of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government are very sensible of the courtesy of the Spanish Government in inviting the Delegates of the subscribing groups to the capital of the proposed Morocco State Bank to meet at Madrid.

His Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid has already explained to the Minister of State the reasons for which His Majesty's Government consider it desirable to postpone the meeting at least until the 26th instant, and I have been glad to receive a reply from the Spanish Government concurring in this view. I now learn that, as a result of communications between the Spanish and French Governments, a preference has been expressed for Paris as the more convenient place of meeting. In these circumstances His Majesty's Government, whilst sincerely grateful for the offer of Spanish hospitality, will be prepared to arrange for the presence of the British Delegate at Paris on the 26th instant, if the other Powers interested agree.

The German Chargé d'Affaires at this Court has communicated to me the terms of a proposal made by the Imperial Government to that of Spain to the effect that the four Censors of the Morocco State Bank should be appointed forthwith, and directed to proceed to the place of meeting of the Special Committee of Delegates of the

subscribing groups, in order, by their presence, to facilitate the drafting of the Statutes of the State Bank, which must receive the Censors' approval. The German Government further suggest that the four-years term of appointment of the Censors should date from the day of the first meeting of the Delegates. To these arrangements His Majesty's Government see no objection, and they are prepared to act accordingly, on the understanding that the other Powers will do the same.

I regret not yet to be in a position to name the bank selected to represent British subscribers to the capital of the Morocco State Bank, but I hope to be able to do so very shortly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[17123] No. 102.

Sir Edward Grey to Baron Stumm.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 18, 1906.

WITH reference to your verbal communication of the 16th instant, I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government agree to the proposed arrangement by which the four Censors of the Morocco State Bank are to be appointed at once, and be directed to proceed to the place of meeting of the Special Committee of Delegates of the subscribing groups, in order to be able to communicate with them direct in connection with the drafting of the Statutes.

His Majesty's Government also concur in the suggestion that the appointments of the Censors should date from the first meeting of the Special Committee of Delegates.

The Spanish Government had invited the Delegates to meet at Madrid on the 20th May. Since then, however, it is understood that, as a result of communications between the Spanish and French Governments, a preference has been expressed for Paris as the more convenient place of meeting, and His Majesty's Government are disposed to share and act on this view, if the other Governments interested agree.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[17147] No. 103.

Mr. O'Beirne to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 215.)
Sir, *Paris, May* 18, 1906.

WITH reference to recent correspondence relative to the question of the Morocco State Bank, I have the honour to inform you that a communication was made yesterday by Sir Francis Bertie to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your telegrams Nos. 62 and 63 of the 16th instant.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter received from M. Bourgeois this morning, stating that he had already instructed the French Ambassador in London to confer with you on this subject, and intimating that he concurs in the proposal to appoint censors immediately, and also in the view expressed by you in your telegram No. 63, to the effect that the requirements of the General Act of the Algeciras Conference would be fulfilled if the Delegates of the subscribing banks met not later than the 26th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH O'BEIRNE.

Inclosure in No. 103.

M. Bourgeois to Sir F. Bertie.

Mon cher Ambassadeur, *Paris, le* 17 *Mai*, 1906.

AYANT pu venir aujourd'hui au Ministère, je réponds moi-même à la lettre que vous avez adressée au Directeur Politique, pour lui demander comment nous envisagerions la proposition Allemande relative à la nomination immédiate des

censeurs de la Banque d'État Marocaine et à leur participation aux travaux de rédaction des statuts.

En recevant cette suggestion, j'ai déjà prié M. Paul Cambon de s'en entretenir avec Sir E. Grey. Je considère, et l'on considérera sans doute à Londres, qu'elle n'offre aucun inconvénient. Je me propose donc d'inviter la Banque de France à désigner, dans un bref délai, le censeur dont le choix lui a été attribué, afin qu'il puisse en temps utile suivre les délibérations du Comité Spécial.

Quant à la question des délais, il me paraît qu'elle doit se régler par une interprétation libérale des dispositions de l'Acte d'Algésiras, et l'observation du Gouvernement Britannique, au sujet de la date proposée par l'Espagne, me semble justifiée. D'une façon générale, je pense que les difficultés, d'ordre pratique, que soulèverait l'invitation du Gouvernement Espagnol se concilieraient aisément par une entente directe des Délégués de tous les groupes.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) LÉON BOURGEOIS.

[17148] No. 104.

Mr. O'Beirne to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 216.)
Sir, *Paris, May 18, 1906.*

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch, I have the honour to state that I saw the Directeur des Affaires Politiques at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to-day, and made a communication in the sense of your telegram No.64.

M. Louis observed that the interpretation of Article 57 of the General Act suggested by the German and United States' Governments appeared scarcely to be in accordance with the original intention of that Article. He seemed, nevertheless, to think that the French Government would be able to accept it, but he said that he would not give me a definite answer until he had spoken to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

M. Louis went on to say that the Delegates of the subscribing banks of the following nationalities: German, Russian, Italian, Swedish, and Belgian, had arranged to be in Paris on the 21st instant, and to have a preliminary meeting. The Spanish Delegate would probably also be present. It appeared to M. Louis to be very desirable that the English Delegate should also attend on this occasion, whatever might be the decision eventually arrived at with regard to the date of the formal meeting of the Committee of Delegates.

(Confidential.)

M. Louis added that he might tell me confidentially, and not officially, that the French Government had contemplated the possibility of the Committee of Delegates meeting in Paris, and that they had been rather surprised at the invitation issued by the Spanish Government. He said that Paris was more convenient as a meeting place than Madrid, especially as time was short, and that the number of shares to be held by France in the Morocco Bank rendered its selection natural. I gathered that he thought that the preliminary meeting of Delegates on the 21st instant might pave the way for the formal meetings of the Committee eventually taking place here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. O'BEIRNE.

[17209] No. 105.

Señor Bernabé to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 19.)

(Translation.)
Your Excellency, *Spanish Embassy, London [undated].*

THE Government of the King, my august Sovereign, have forwarded to me copies of the letters which the President of the International Conference at Algeciras has addressed to the President of the Swiss Confederation and to Signor Malmusi, Minister

of Italy at Tangier and doyen of the Diplomatic Corps there, informing them of certain desires and wishes of the Conference. I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith copies of these letters for your Excellency's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) POLO DA BERNABÉ.

Inclosure 1 in No. 105.

Duke de Almodovar to the President of the Swiss Confederation.

Excellence, *Algésiras, le 7 Avril*, 1906.

L'ACTE Général de la Conférence Internationale d'Algésiras a confié à des fonctionnaires et organismes Suisses la garantie du bon fonctionnement de la future police Marocaine ainsi que celui de la nouvelle Banque d'État.

A cet effet l'Article 7 du dit Acte Général confère l'inspectorat général de la police, qui sera organisée au Moghreb par des officiers instructeurs Espagnols et Français, à un officier supérieur de l'armée Suisse, dont le choix sera proposé à Sa Majesté Chérifienne par le Gouvernement Fédéral.

D'autre part, les Articles 45 et 46 portent que les appels de jugements intentés au Maroc contre la Banque, ainsi que les contestations sur les clauses de la concession et les litiges pouvant survenir entre le Gouvernement Marocain, les actionnaires et la Banque, seront soumis à la Cour Fédéral de Lausanne.

En vertu de la très honorable mission qui m'a été confiée à la séance de clôture, je m'empresse de porter ces faits à la connaissance de votre Excellence ainsi qu'à celle du Conseil d'État Fédéral, me réservant d'en demander officiellement les autorisations nécessaires sitôt que les Puissances Signataires auront ratifié l'Acte Général.

En attendant, je suis très honoré d'élever au Conseil d'État Fédéral et à votre Excellence les hommages respectueux de la Conférence d'Algésiras, qui a désiré dans cette circonstance donner un témoignage public de sa considération et de sa sympathie envers la noble et ancienne Confédération Helvétique.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Président de la Conférence,
(Signé) El Duque de ALMODOVAR DEL RIO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 105.

Duke de Almodovar to Signor Malmusi.

M. le Ministre, *Algésiras, le 7 Avril*, 1906.

AINSI que le sait votre Excellence, l'attention de la Conférence d'Algésiras a été attirée par son Excellence M. le Délégué Plénipotentiaire de la Grande-Bretagne sur les regrettables progrès que commence à faire au Maroc, parmi les indigènes, l'usage des boissons alcooliques.

Son Excellence Sir Arthur Nicolson exprimait, en même temps, le désir que quelques mesures pussent être prises pour empêcher ou diminuer la propagation d'habitudes funestes à la race et contraires, d'ailleurs, aux croyances religieuses des Musulmans.

Les moyens les plus efficaces d'enrayer le mal à ses débuts lui paraissent être la limitation de l'introduction des boissons distillées à celles destinées à la consommation des populations non-indigènes et l'interdiction de la fabrication de ces boissons au Maroc.

Je prends la liberté de rappeler à votre Excellence que dans la séance du 24 Mars dernier, la Conférence a donné son adhésion unanime au vœu dont son Excellence M. le Délégué Plénipotentiaire de la Grande-Bretagne s'était fait l'interprète et, en lui communiquant ci-jointe une copie de la lettre dans laquelle Sir A. Nicolson exposait ses vues à ce sujet, je serais très obligé à votre Excellence de vouloir bien, ainsi que la Conférence en a délibéré, soumettre la question au Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, afin que par une étude approfondie de la question, et d'accord avec Sa Majesté le Sultan,

des mesures efficaces puissent être établies en vue de limiter l'introduction au Maroc des boissons alcooliques.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Président de la Conférence,
(Signe) El Duque de ALMODOVAR DEL RIO.

[17298] No. 106.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 50.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 19, 1906.*

STATE Bank of Morocco.

Substance of your telegram No. 28 has been communicated to Minister for Foreign Affairs in a *note verbale*.

The Duke of Almodovar explains that the meeting-place of the Special Committee is a matter of indifference to Spain, but considers that it was almost incumbent on Spanish Government to offer Madrid as a meeting-place when inviting the Powers to name their Delegates. The Austrian, Dutch, and other Delegates are believed to be on their way in response to this offer, and the Italian Delegate arrives to-day. His Excellency therefore thinks that it will be difficult to secure general acceptance of another place of meeting. He was informed by German Ambassador yesterday that he had telegraphed for German Delegate to be sent to Madrid before the 26th instant, and that Germany would not consent to selection of Paris.

[17299] No. 107.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 19.)

(No. 51.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 19, 1906.*

STATE Bank of Morocco.

The interpretation of Article 56 of the General Act suggested in your telegram No. 64 to His Majesty's Representative at Paris has not as yet occurred to either the Minister for Foreign Affairs or the French Ambassador, as I gather from my conversation with them to-day.

[17137] No. 108.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 65.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, May 19, 1906.*

YOUR telegram No. 42.

I regret it is impossible within the short time available to arrange for either Delegate or Censor to be present in Paris on 21st.

[17129] No. 109.

Foreign Office to Governor of the Bank of England.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 19, 1906.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, and to inform you that he notes with satisfaction the readiness of the Bank of England to undertake the nomination of the British Censor for the State Bank of Morocco, in conformity with the provisions of the General Act of the International Conference of Algeciras.

Sir E. Grey has communicated with Sir E. Law at Athens, and has now received a telegram from him stating that there is just sufficient time for him to reach Paris on the morning of the 26th May, proceeding there direct, without first coming to London. The place of meeting of the Censors and of the Special Committee charged with the duty of drafting the statutes of the State Bank will probably be Paris, and not Madrid,

as previously arranged. As Sir E. Law's presence in Paris on the day of the first meeting, which is provisionally fixed for the 26th instant, seems clearly desirable, Sir E. Grey has taken the liberty, in anticipation of your concurrence, to instruct him to arrange accordingly.

I am to take the opportunity of explaining that communications are passing with Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co. with the view of their undertaking the management of the British subscription to the capital of the Morocco State Bank, and that there is a question of Sir E. Law being also appointed Delegate to represent the British subscribing group on the Special Committee to be intrusted with the drafting of the statutes of the State Bank.

It is expected that the first meeting of the Delegates will be of a purely formal character, and that it will immediately adjourn. In these circumstances it is suggested that any preliminary directions and information with which it may seem desirable to furnish Sir E. Law, either in his capacity of Censor or in that of Delegate of the subscribing group, should be sent to Paris to the care of His Majesty's Embassy, and that the more detailed instructions required should be communicated to him on his coming to London after the first meeting of the Special Committee.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. HARDINGE.

[16615] No. 110.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.

(Confidential.)
Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, May 19, 1906.*

SIR EDWARD GREY understands that your firm would be willing to manage the British subscription to the capital of the proposed Morocco State Bank. On this assumption he has directed me to transmit to you the accompanying copy of the General Act recently negotiated at the International Conference at Algeciras, in which provision is made for the establishment of such a bank. The detailed stipulations as to the functions and constitution of the bank are contained in Articles 31–58.

Under Article 56 this country secures the right to participate in the subscription of the bank's capital, and His Majesty's Government are anxious that the subscription should be taken up by banks or firms of appropriate standing, on such conditions as the circumstances require.

As regards the amount of the subscription, it will be observed that the initial capital of the bank may be fixed at any amount between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 fr. (say 600,000*l.* to 800,000*l.*) The number of portions into which this total will be divided depends upon the number of the Signatory Powers which decide to participate. It is understood that all the Powers except the United States—who have definitely declined—and Morocco, whose decision has not yet been notified, have expressed their intention to participate. Taking into account that two additional portions are to be assigned to the French Syndicate which negotiated the Moorish Loan of 1903, the total number of portions will therefore be thirteen or fourteen, according as Morocco takes part or not.

In view of the peculiar international situation in the Moorish Empire and of the proposed constitution of the State Bank, it will be necessary for His Majesty's Government to reserve some control over the action of the British subscribers in matters which may affect political interests. They accordingly feel bound to stipulate that the representative of the British subscribers on the administrative council of the bank shall be designated either by, or at least with the concurrence of, the Government, and also that it shall be in the power of the Government at any time, if they are not satisfied with the representative's action, to require his removal at the earliest opportunity. In matters affecting general policy the representative will be obliged to act in accordance with any instructions that the Government may give.

Further, it is necessary that the subscribers shall not, to any extent, part with their holdings except under conditions which shall insure the maintenance of the British position in the administration of the bank; and there should be some guarantee that they are not persons or firms whose interests or connections would be likely to cause their participation to be in any way a source of embarrassment to His Majesty's Government. This object would no doubt be best secured by making it an obligation that the names of intending subscribers should be submitted to the Government for approval,

and that the Government's previous consent should be obtained for the disposal of any shares by the subscribers.

Should you agree to undertake the management of the British subscription under the above conditions, Sir E. Grey need hardly say that the name of your house would inspire the Government with full confidence, and would, in their eyes, afford in itself a valuable guarantee for the smooth and loyal working of the scheme on the proposed lines. It would not, of course, be necessary that you should yourselves subscribe the whole, or perhaps any portion, of the capital. But it would be for you, subject to the approval of the Government, to allot the subscriptions and to receive them. You would thus represent the subscribers as head of the British group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 56 of the Algeciras Act.

In the event of your accepting this position, I am to point out that it will be necessary for you to nominate with the least possible delay a Delegate to represent you on the Special Committee which under Article 57 of the Act is to draft the statutes of the Morocco State Bank. As at present arranged, this Committee will probably be required to hold its first meeting at Paris not later than the 26th instant.

Sir E. Grey thinks it would in this connection be useful for you to know that, in pursuance of the provisions of Article 57 of the Act, the Bank of England has nominated Sir E. FitzGerald Law, K.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., late financial member of the Council of the Governor-General of India, to be a Censor of the Morocco State Bank. Since the approval of the Censors is required, under the Act, for the validity of the statutes of the bank, it has been arranged between the several Governments concerned that the four Censors, in order to avoid delay and inconvenience, should attend at the place of meeting of the Delegates charged with the duty of drafting the statutes, so as to be able to consult together with them. Accordingly Sir E. Law, who is at present at Athens, has been summoned home by telegraph so as to be ready to proceed to Paris by the 26th instant.

It occurs to Sir E. Grey that, should you experience any practical difficulty in the immediate selection of a suitable Delegate, you might find it convenient to nominate Sir E. Law himself, and it does not appear that there is anything in the Algeciras Act to prevent such an arrangement.

In view of the urgency of the case, I am to request that you will be so good as to take the whole matter into your immediate consideration, and favour Sir E. Grey with your decision at your very earliest convenience.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HARDINGE.

[17300] No. 111.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 20.)

(No. 52.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Madrid, May 20, 1906.

THE German Delegate on the Morocco Bank Committee is, as the German Ambassador informs me, on his way to Madrid. In the opinion of Herr von Radowitz, the Special Committee should hold its first meeting at Madrid on the 24th or 25th instant, when the Committee can itself select a place for its future meetings.

I learn that the Italian Delegate will remain in Paris until a decision has been come to.

[17309] No. 112.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 21.)

(No. 82.)
Sir,

Tangier, May 9, 1906.

IT having come to my knowledge that on several occasions recently batches of children, who were evidently born free, have been brought to Tangier for sale as slaves, and as native Mussulmans as well as foreigners have expressed their horror at such proceedings, which, I understand, are contrary to the Mussulman religion, I have addressed a note on the subject to Sid Ben Sliman requesting him to bring the matter

to the knowledge of the Sultan, with a view to steps being taken to put a stop to this traffic.

I beg to transmit herewith a translation of this letter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Mr. Lowther to Ben Sliman.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

Tangier, May 9, 1906.

REPORTS have recently reached me, both from Europeans and from Mussulmans, that on several occasions during the last few months batches of children of both sexes and of white complexion have been brought to Tangier by sea from the other Moorish ports and sold here as slaves, although, as I have been informed by some Mussulmans here, who have expressed their strong disapproval of these proceedings, this is contrary to the religion of Islam, as many of these children are evidently free-born. I am assured that the persons in charge of these children have been seen conveying them through the streets of Tangier, to be offered for sale at various houses, to the great scandal of all good Mussulmans as well as of all Christians.

From reports that have reached me from the Consular officers, I have learnt that at Mogador and other ports the same scandal exists.

I request your Excellency to bring this to the knowledge of the Sultan, for I am convinced that His Majesty will be the first to desire to put a stop to the existence of such a scandal in His Majesty's dominions.

May you rest, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17311] No. 113.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 21.)

(No. 85. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, May 13, 1906.

IN obedience to the instruction contained in your Circular marked B of the 9th April, I have the honour to transmit herewith confidentially a list of the Heads of the Foreign Missions accredited to this Court, together with some comments on these officials.

There is no permanent Moorish Diplomatic or Consular Corps with the exception of the Consul at Gibraltar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 113.

List of Heads of Foreign Missions at Tangier.

M. MALMUSI, the Italian Minister, is the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body of Tangier, having been accredited here some nine years. Now about 60, he began his career in the Consular service of his country, was employed here as a young man under his father, the then Sardinian Minister, and has spent nearly all his official life in the Mediterranean countries. This is his first post as Minister. He has acted as British Vice-Consul at Trebizond and as Acting-Consul at Tunis in 1885. He is married to a French-Algerian lady. He is acquainted with the Arabic language as spoken here, and is generally credited with a good knowledge of the Moors and their ways. Conciliatory in his manner, and having but few Italian interests to support, he has usually kept on good terms with the Moors and is not disliked by them; but although he has frequently been called upon to speak for the whole Diplomatic Body in matters with the Sultan, he has not universally met with success.

He avoids, together with his family, all social contact with his colleagues and

others who constitute Tangier society, presumably because his means do not admit of his returning any civilities he might receive.

M. Saint-René Taillandier, the French Minister, was for some time Consul-General at Beyrout, and then was employed at the Foreign Office at Paris. He is extremely courteous, but pompous in manner (an academician to the very root), solemn and grave, cautious, very carefully choosing his words, and pondering over his actions. Pressed by his Secretary to reply to a telegram from his Foreign Office long unanswered, he instructed him to reply as follows: "Il est urgent d'attendre!" His manner is not one that ingratiates either Europeans or Moors, and from the first the Sultan took a dislike to him—a dislike that was increased by his sojourn at Fez last summer, when from the first he adopted too authoritative a tone. He appears to have no suspicion, like some of his countrymen, of the sincerity of Great Britain in the *entente cordiale*. But I cannot think that he is a very suitable man to represent France here at this moment. My relations with him are excellent, and I believe he does not conceal more from me than his naturally secretive nature compels him to do. He has not the art of conciliating those with whom he is in disagreement. He is married to a rather clever woman, a niece of Taine's, who has some literary talent, but from a conviction of superiority over her surroundings has not succeeded in ingratiating herself in the public estimation. His mania is to "chercher la formule."

Count Martens Ferrão, the Portuguese Minister, both to appearance and to the position he occupies, somewhat resembles his colleague in London, M. de Soveral. Having no axe to grind, and practically no interests to safeguard, he rarely finds himself in disagreement with his colleagues, with all of whom he is on the best of terms. Married to an Italian lady with private means, he entertains to a considerable extent. He has never been to Fez, and has practically nothing to do with the Moorish authorities. Having lately represented his Government at Algeciras as second Delegate, he considers himself entitled to a higher post, and has now proceeded to Lisbon with a view to moving the powers that be in that direction.

Count de Buisseret, the Belgian Minister, I have known in several posts during his career. Keenly intelligent and quick-witted, his usefulness is somewhat marred by an extremely nervous temperament, which at times provokes him to great obstinacy in the meetings of the Diplomatic Body, of the Conseil Sanitaire, and of the Light-house Commission. He takes much interest in promoting Belgian trade here, and his labours have been rewarded by seeing a recent advance in that direction. He is married to an American lady from Washington.

He has been on a mission to Fez, and his success was limited, it is said, to obtaining from the Sultan the use of a piece of ground for playing polo here. He is also convinced that his recent services at Algeciras entitle him to promotion.

Count Koziebrodzki is the Austro-Hungarian Minister. I have been privileged with the previous acquaintance of this somewhat irascible young diplomatist, who, I believe, has succeeded in making himself generally disliked in all his posts. Of exceedingly violent temper, he does not hesitate to lay hands upon native servants and others who provoke him, and it remains a wonder to us all that he has not yet met with retaliatory measures.

Increasing age and transfer to a post where he might have more interests to watch might possibly produce a sobering influence upon him, but the severe reprimand he received at the recent Conference at the hands of Marquis Visconti Venosta did not have the anticipated effect. He is distinctly unpopular, is married to an extremely quiet German lady of good family, but with insufficient strength of character to check the violent outbursts to which he is prone.

Mr. Gummeré, the American Representative, was here for some years as Consul-General, and was last year raised to the rank of Envoy. Possessing only a very superficial knowledge of the French language and no acquaintance with any other, he does not take much interest in the deliberations of the Diplomatic Corps. His attention is occupied with questions of protection, and, unlike some of his predecessors, has avoided getting mixed up in doubtful transactions in this connection. He is a man of no special ability, and is unmarried.

M. Llaveria, the Spanish Minister, was my colleague in Chile, and there I enjoyed the most pleasant and cordial relations with him. Of very quiet and courteous manners, he always endeavours to be conciliatory. Straightforward and honest, though without any particular talent, he is devoted to his work. Unfortunately his health is most precarious, and his life is spent either in bed or at his desk, which he rarely leaves, being devoted to detail. He has a troublesome colony to manage, and so far has steered well through his difficulties. He cannot be said to have much influence with Moorish

officials, all Spaniards being, as is well known, despised by the people of this country. He is warmly supported by the Duc de Almodovar, who recently raised his rank here. He is, unlike his colleagues, married to a countryman of his—the daughter of a former Spanish Minister here. He does not entertain, owing probably to the high prices ruling and to insufficient salary, and he is rarely seen outside his house.

Dr. Rosen, the German Minister, is the true type of intelligent and learned German bourgeois, his good manners being rather more forced than natural. The son of George Rosen, one of the greatest German Orientalists, who was for many years Consul-General at Jerusalem, he spent his boyhood in Palestine, where he learnt Arabic as his mother-tongue.

In 1885–86 he accompanied the present Lord Dufferin as tutor to India, and I believe that the high opinion that the late Lord Dufferin formed of his talents induced him to recommend Dr. Rosen to the notice of Bismarck.

Dr. Rosen's great knowledge of the Persian language and a journey he made through Persia from India led to his employment as first dragoman at the German Legation in Tehran, where he remained for some years, and took charge of the Legation during the Minister's absence.

For the last few years he has been Director of the Oriental section of the German Foreign Office, and also conducted a recent Mission to Abyssinia. Last summer he was sent to Paris to negotiate the preliminaries of the Conference at Algeciras. He has a thorough knowledge of English and French, and always expresses himself with great admiration for English institutions and for our rule in India. He always endeavours to give the impression that his attitude is an extremely moderate and conciliatory one, but he will nevertheless, I am convinced, prove a dangerous opponent to any energetic policy on the part of the French here. His manner is one that is likely to appeal to the Sultan and the Moors. He does not conceal his disapproval of the action of his predecessor, Count Tattenbach. My relations with him are very pleasant. He is married to a Mme. Roche, half English and half French, but educated in England. He has taken rather a dislike to his post, perhaps feeling that the rôle he will be called upon to fill is not so active a one as he anticipated.

M. Sabline is the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, and it is thought unlikely that the Russian Government will appoint another Minister here. Having no official duties, owing to the entire absence of Russian subjects or interests, he devotes his time to the violin, on which he is an expert. He was formerly Secretary to the Russian Legation in Belgrade, but a domestic tragedy compelled him to obtain a transfer. He is clever, but officially his rôle is confined to supporting his French colleague in local matters.

[17538] No. 114.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 21.)

(No. 53.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May* 21, 1906.

I WOULD suggest that Councillor of Embassy be empowered to represent British Bank on Morocco Bank Committee until the regular British Delegates arrive, if they cannot reach Madrid before the 26th May, and if postponement of meeting prove impracticable. The meetings could be adjourned if necessary to some more convenient place and date, after the Special Committee has been constituted.

The German Delegate representing Mendelssohn and the German Censor arrive on the 23rd May, and several others are on their way. Should I engage rooms for the British Representatives?

[17524] No. 115.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 21.)

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Tangier, May* 21, 1906.

BRITISH sailing-vessel with cargo for Gibraltar with three sailors captured by brigand Valiente near Ceuta. I am awaiting detailed information respecting circumstances of capture and nationality of captives, and have communicated fact to Moorish Commissioner.

[17529] No. 116.

Herr von Stumm to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 21.)

(Translation.)

Sir, *German Embassy, London, May 21, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you, with reference to your note of the 18th instant, that it appears from a communication received from the Imperial Government that the German Delegate for the Special Committee which is to draw up the Regulation fixing the relations between the State Bank of Morocco and the Moorish Government, as also the Statutes of the Bank, will arrive at Madrid on the 23rd or 24th instant in company with the Censor to be appointed by the Imperial German Bank.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STUMM.

[17621] No. 117.

Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co. to Foreign Office.—(Received May 21.)

Sir, 67, *Lombard Street, London, May 21, 1906.*

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated the 19th instant, and to assure you of our readiness to undertake the duties in connection with the British subscription to the capital of the proposed Morocco State Bank. We need hardly say we highly appreciate the honour that you have done us in selecting us for this duty, which we will endeavour to carry out in accordance with the principles indicated.

We entirely concur in the suggestion that Sir E. Law should act as Delegate to the Conference to be held in Paris on the 26th instant, and we have therefore much pleasure in formally nominating him.

In order to secure that His Majesty's Government should maintain permanent control in all matters political of the powers vested in the holders of the shares allotted to the British subscribers, we would suggest that the shares should be held by ourselves under a deed of trust, we to issue to the subscribers our certificates to bearer, these certificates to state that the holders are entitled to the dividends on shares of the Morocco State Bank.

The voting power to be vested solely in ourselves and in all matters affecting political interests to be exercised in accordance with the instructions of His Majesty's Government. Provision to be made in the trust deed for the appointment by His Majesty's Government of a new trustee in the event of Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co. ceasing to exist.

By these means it appears to us that we shall secure to His Majesty's Government control over the action of the British subscribers, and insure the maintenance of the British position in the administration of the bank.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE, AND Co.

[17621] No. 118.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, May 21, 1906.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date on the subject of the proposed Morocco State Bank, and to convey to you his sincere thanks for the ready manner in which you have agreed to accept the conditions formulated by His Majesty's Government. Sir E. Grey regards as entirely satisfactory the manner in which you propose to carry out the arrangements for the subscription of the British portion of the capital of the Bank.

Since the date of my previous letter to you, certain foreign Powers have raised objections to Paris as the meeting place of the Delegates charged with the duty of drafting the Statutes, and it appears likely that the first meeting must take place at Madrid on or before the 26th instant. It will, unfortunately, not be possible for

Sir E. Law to reach Madrid by the 26th, as he will only arrive at Paris, on his way from Athens, on the morning of that day. In these circumstances I am to suggest that, should the Powers interested consider it essential to the validity of the proceedings of the Delegates that they should meet not later than the 26th, you might provisionally authorize the Counsellor of His Majesty's Embassy at Madrid, Mr. Fairfax Cartwright, M.V.O., or, failing him, the senior member present of the Embassy staff, to act as your Delegate pending the arrival of Sir E. Law. In that case the Acting Delegate would have to be instructed merely to explain his exceptional position, and the circumstances to which it is due, to the meeting, and propose its adjournment until such time as Sir E. Law could be present.

If this arrangement commends itself to you, Sir E. Grey will be ready to send the necessary directions to His Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES HARDINGE.

[17601] No. 119.

Mr. Lister to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 22.)

(No. 43.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, May 21, 1906.*

M. BOURGEOIS informed me this afternoon, with reference to the question of the Morocco State Bank, that the French Government were inclined to agree to the interpretation of Article 57 suggested in your telegram No. 64 of the 17th instant, as they were anxious to gain time. He thought that in inviting Delegates to meet at Madrid Spain had acted in an "inconsiderate" manner.

[17626] No. 120.

Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co. to Foreign Office.—(Received May 22.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, 67, *Lombard Street, London, May 22, 1906.*

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st instant regarding the proposed Morocco State Bank. We note with satisfaction that the Secretary of State approves of the manner in which we proposed to carry out the arrangements for the subscription of the British portion of the capital of the bank.

We concur in the suggestion that, in the circumstances mentioned, Mr. Fairfax Cartwright, M.V.O., or the senior member present of the staff of His Majesty's Embassy, should act as Delegate pending the arrival of Sir E. Law, in the event of its being decided that the first meeting of the Delegates must take place at Madrid on or before the 26th instant. We accordingly beg to convey our formal authority for such a course.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE, AND Co.

[12690] No. 121.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 57.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 22, 1906.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 61 of the 8th ultimo, in which you forwarded a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Consul at Daralbaida, reporting on the sale of slaves at the ports in that Consular district during the previous quarter.

In view of the Declaration read by Sir A. Nicolson to the Conference at Algeciras, and adopted by all the Delegates with the exception of the Moors, you should consult

with your colleagues, and, in the event of their concurring in this view, you should associate yourself with them in addressing a joint representation to the Moorish Government with a view to the adoption of more rigorous measures for the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

I transmit to you herewith copy of the Declaration referred to.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[17656] No. 122.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 90.)

Sir, *Madrid, May* 19, 1906.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 50 of to-day, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a *note verbale* in which I have informed the Spanish Government of the contents of your telegram No. 28 of yesterday, explaining the views of His Majesty's Government concerning the place of meeting of the Special Committee for drawing up the Statutes of the State Bank of Morocco, and as regards the concurrent meeting of the four Censors. I have already briefly reported, in my above-mentioned telegram, the position taken up by the Duke of Almodovar with regard to the first of these questions. The Duke considers that it is incumbent on Spain to call upon the interested Powers to give effect to the provisions of the General Act of Algeciras.

In inviting those Powers to see to the early selection of the banks which are to subscribe the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank, and to the designation by the subscribing banks of the Delegates who are required by Article 57 to meet for the purpose of drawing up the Statutes of the State Bank, his Excellency thinks he could hardly have avoided proposing a place of meeting. This proposal had to originate somewhere, and it seemed natural that it should be made by Spain simultaneously with her communication to the Powers concerning the selection of the Delegates. The dictates of hospitality induced him to propose Madrid. He did so, I understand, without consulting anybody, and apparently without foreseeing the inconvenience to which his suggestion could not fail to give rise, in view of the difficulty of finding further accommodation in Madrid during the period of the Royal marriage festivities.

He told me to-day that it would now, he feared, be very difficult to secure general acceptance of any other place. Several Powers had already responded to his invitation. The Italian Delegate was arriving to-day, and others, including the Austro-Hungarian and Dutch Delegates, were believed to be already on their way. If, however, the change could still be made, he personally would have no objection. But he could tell me that Germany would be found to object very strongly to the selection of Paris as the place of meeting for Delegates and Censors. The German Ambassador had left him in no doubt on this point.

M. de Radowitz had declared emphatically that the German Government could not consent to the Statutes of the State Bank being drawn up in the French capital, where local influence might be expected to give a French bias to the deliberations of the Delegates, and so to cause the international character of the provisions of the General Act concerning the State Bank to be seriously impaired. The German Ambassador further informed the Duke of Almodovar that he had telegraphed for the German Delegate to come to Madrid without delay.

The Spanish Foreign Minister showed some annoyance at the endeavour made by the French Ambassador to substitute Paris for Madrid as the place of meeting. The Duke of Almodovar thinks the object was not of sufficient importance to justify M. Cambon in risking the check which he might have foreseen that his proposal would meet with at the hands of Germany. M. Cambon complains no less of the Duke of Almodovar for having put forward Madrid without consultation with himself.

As to the latest date at which the Delegates can meet consistently with the terms of the General Act, the Duke of Almodovar has no doubt that it is the 26th May. I do not gather that it has occurred to either his Excellency or the French Ambassador that the signature of the General Act may be regarded as incomplete until the Sultan of Morocco has intimated that he accepts the same, and that therefore it may be urged that the four weeks mentioned in Article 56 as the period within which the Powers must signify their intention to participate in the subscription to the initial capital of the

* No. 49.

State Bank should be reckoned from the date of the Sultan's concurrence, which is as yet in the future.

You have had the goodness to inform me, confidentially, in your telegram No. 27 of yesterday, of the steps which are being taken with a view to bringing this aspect of the question to the knowledge of the Spanish Government, and of thus finding a way out of the difficulty which has been created by the suggestions of the Spanish Government.

I have already had the honour of informing you, by my telegram No. 48 of the 17th instant, that, in placing the building of the Bank of Spain at the disposal of the Delegates from the 20th May—although the first meeting of Delegates need not be held, in the view of the Spanish Government, till the 26th May—the Duke of Almodovar states that he only intended to supply the Delegates with facilities for preliminary and informal discussion before the regular meetings began, and that there was no wish to bring the Delegates to Madrid before the appointed time, except for their own convenience.

But there appears to have been some ambiguity in the instructions sent to the Spanish Representatives abroad on this point, inasmuch as several Delegates are apparently about to arrive in Madrid as if to take part in a meeting to be held on the 20th May.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

Inclosure in No. 122.

Note Verbale.

THE Ambassador of His Most Catholic Majesty in London has not failed to convey to the British Government the courteous proposal of the Spanish Government that the meeting of the Delegates of the Powers which have signified their intention of participating in the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank should be held at Madrid, with the object of drawing up the Statutes of the said State Bank as contemplated by Article 57 of the General Act of Algeciras. His Excellency added that the building of the Bank of Spain would be placed at the disposal of the Delegates for this purpose.

Since receiving the above communication from his Excellency Señor Polo de Bernabé His Majesty's Government have, however, been given to understand that, as the result of communications between the Spanish and French Governments, it has been ascertained that a preference is felt among some of the subscribing groups for Paris as the most convenient place of meeting for the Delegates in question.

In these circumstances His Majesty's Ambassador is directed by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to state that, while thanking the Spanish Government for the offer of their hospitality, His Majesty's Government are prepared to agree to the meeting taking place in Paris, provided that the other Powers concerned in the question concur.

Sir Maurice de Bunsen is further instructed to refer to a proposal emanating from the German Government, which is doubtless within the cognizance of the Spanish Government, to the effect that the Censors, whose functions are defined in the General Act of Algeciras, should be appointed at once, and directed to proceed to the place of meeting of the Delegates, in order to facilitate the drafting of the Regulations which, under Article 43 of the General Act, require the approval of the Censors; and that the appointments of the Censors should date from the day of the first meeting of the Delegates.

His Majesty's Government concur in this proposal, and will arrange that the Censor appointed by the Bank of England shall accordingly attend at Paris, if the other interested Powers agree.

His Majesty's Government will shortly notify which is the British bank selected under Article 56 to exercise the right of subscription and that of the designation of the administrators of the State Bank.

Madrid May 19, 1906.

[17745] No. 123.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 54.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 23, 1906.*

WITH reference to your telegram No. 29 on the subject of the Morocco Bank, I have to report that the French Ambassador wishes the French Delegate to be proposed as President, and also urges that Mr. Cartwright should propose at the meeting of Delegates on the 26th May that the Special Committee should adjourn, and reassemble at Paris.

In my opinion it would be likely to provoke a conflict with Germany if the French Government were so ill-advised as to press either of these points, which are matters of secondary importance.

I am informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the German Ambassador considers that to draw up the statutes in Paris would look like a departure from the international principle, which, in the Bank question at any rate, was clearly asserted by the Algeciras Conference, and for this reason Herr von Radowitz is very emphatic in refusing to consider Paris as a meeting-place.

Although Paris would, of course, have been more convenient, would it not be the simpler course to allow the Special Committee, which will now assemble in a few days, to conclude its labours at Madrid under Spanish presidency according to the prevailing custom, and merely to adjourn until after the wedding festivities?

It seems necessary to arrive at a clear understanding with the French Government on this subject.

The above is confidential.

[17746] No. 124.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 23.)

(No. 17.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 23, 1906.*

CAPTURE of a British sailing-vessel near Ceuta by "Valiente."

My telegram No. 16 of the 21st May.

The name of the vessel captured by brigands near Ceuta is "Consuelo," and the crew and captain are of Spanish nationality.

The brigands have now released the captured sailors, but demand for the vessel and cargo, which has been landed, a ransom of 2,000 dollars.

I have suggested to Sid Torres that, in order to recover the "Consuelo" and her cargo, the steamer "Turki," which has machine-guns, should be dispatched to the spot. He declares, however, that the resistance would be of a too formidable character, but he has written to the Governor of Angera instructing him to endeavour to obtain the release of the vessel and cargo. Torres admits the liability of the Moorish Government if this measure fails.

The "Consuelo" was presumably smuggling, the cargo consisting principally of tobacco.

[17792] No. 125.

Sir E. Egerton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 24.)

(No. 89. Very Confidential.)
Sir, *Rome, May 21, 1906.*

I AM told, on the authority of Signor Luzzatti, that about a fortnight ago the German Chargé d'Affaires approached Count Guicciardini with the request, on the part of his Government, that the Italian Government should engage to support German influence in the Bank in Morocco, and should, if it desired to dispose of its share, dispose of it only to Germany.

Count Guicciardini hesitated, pleading Mediterranean engagements, and finally, after consulting Baron Sonnino, he answered that he could not agree to the German demand.

This would appear to show that the Berlin Foreign Office has not abandoned its policy in Morocco.

There is no doubt that, owing to the wish to obtain French help for the conversion of the Italian funds, the Italian Government does not feel it possible now to play false to her engagements to France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

[17760] No. 126.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 24.)

(No. 91. Confidential.)
Sir, *Madrid, May 21, 1906.*

IN conversation with Señor Moret, President of the Council of Ministers, I took occasion to remark this morning that it was unfortunate that the Duke of Almodovar, Minister for Foreign Affairs, should have taken the initiative in proposing a place of meeting for the Special Committee of Delegates of the banks subscribing the initial capital of the Morocco State Bank without first ascertaining by informal discussion with the Embassies most concerned what place and date would be most convenient. Neither M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, nor myself, had, in point of fact, been taken into the Duke of Almodovar's confidence, and although I did not suggest that the selection of Madrid had been directly prompted by the German Ambassador, it was plain that M. de Radowitz was taking a leading part in supporting that selection and in emphasizing the necessity of the first meeting of the delegates being held not later than the 26th May. It would not be unnatural if the conclusion were drawn that the understanding between Spain, France, and the United Kingdom, which so happily existed at Algeciras, was losing some of its efficacy, and I hoped I might assume that nothing of the kind was in reality to be apprehended.

Señor Moret was almost apologetic in explaining what had happened. He said with great truth that the Duke of Almodovar was much pulled down by his late illness. His Excellency was physically unable to meet all the pressing calls on his attention. The arrangements for the royal wedding were of a very distracting nature, and left little time for anything else.

The Duke, therefore, had adopted without sufficient examination the suggestion concerning the date and place of meeting made, probably, by one of his subordinates, and had sent off his instructions without consulting the President of the Council or any one else. Señor Moret declared that there was nothing else behind the Foreign Minister's action. In future, he had no doubt, the Duke would be more careful. Meanwhile, though Madrid was just now a very inconvenient place to meet in, the British representatives, whoever they might be, would find a hearty welcome here. After all, if the Delegates preferred some other time or place, it was open to them to decide for themselves at the first meeting, which now could hardly, His Excellency thought, be arranged for elsewhere.

Monsieur Cambon informs me that, at an interview with Señor Moret on the previous day, he had objected very strongly to being left in the lurch by the Duke of Almodovar. He declared that France could not admit that it was the duty of Spain to propose a meeting-place for the Delegates, and then to throw cold water on the French suggestion that Paris should be substituted for Madrid.

I spoke to the German Ambassador this morning about the date of meeting, asking whether it had not occurred to him that there might be a different interpretation of the terms of the General Act of Algeciras from that which the Duke of Almodovar had adopted, and that the date of the meeting of the Delegates might be more correctly reckoned from the acceptance of the General Act by the Sultan of Morocco, which was still in the future, instead of from the 5th April.

M. de Radowitz said that this interpretation had been favourably viewed at Berlin, but that as so many Delegates were already on their way, it had not seemed possible to give effect to it. The German representatives had therefore already started on their journey; he had taken rooms for them, and they would arrive on the 23rd instant. One of them was the Delegate of Messrs. Mendelssohn, and the other the Censor appointed by the Banque de l'Empire Allemand.

His Excellency hoped that no objection would be raised by His Majesty's Government to the inauguration of the meeting of the Special Commission at Madrid on the 26th May at the latest. I said that I was still awaiting your instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

[17754] No. 127.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 24.)

(No. 55.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 24, 1906.*

I AM informed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the proposed transfer of the Morocco Bank Special Committee to another place after the first meeting has been held at Madrid is now meeting with less opposition from the German Ambassador.

From a conversation which he had to-day with Herr von Radowitz, Mr. Cartwright received the impression that the German Government would yield if the Delegates expressed a strong opinion in favour of Paris.

The French Ambassador is proposing a French banker here as a temporary substitute for the French Delegate, who cannot arrive in time, and who will be M. Pallain, Governor of the Bank of France.

M. Cambon hopes to secure the removal of the Committee to Paris after the first meeting (at which he has arranged that the Governor of the Bank of Spain shall preside) has been held at Madrid. He hopes to secure the presidency for the French Delegate at the subsequent meetings, and suggests that the Vice-Presidents should be appointed by England and Germany, and is telegraphing to that effect.

In my opinion, it would be better that the British Delegate should await in Paris the result of the first meeting.

[17745] No. 128.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir M. de Bunsen.

(No. 31.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 24, 1906.*

YOUR telegram No. 54.

You should explain to the French Ambassador that Mr. Cartwright will support the proposals which his Excellency suggests, though it would not be convenient that he, a Government official, should take the initiative; but there is no objection to his moving the adjournment of the meeting until the arrival of Sir E. Law. You should warmly support the French Government in their desire that the subsequent meetings be held at Paris; they appear to attach considerable importance to this point, and also to the choice of a French Delegate as President.

[17917] No. 129.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 8.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 24, 1906.*

I HAVE received your telegram No. 16 referring to the capture of the "Consuelo," and the following instructions have been sent to the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar:—

"British sailing-vessel 'Consuelo' has been captured by brigands near Ceuta. If there is no doubt as to her nationality, and provided the British Minister at Tangier concurs, you should send the 'Amethyst' to fetch her. You should exercise discretion in any action you may take, as the British Minister reports that she was probably engaged in smuggling at the time of her capture, and the captain and crew are Spanish subjects."

You should assist the Senior Naval Officer and the Officer Commanding the "Amethyst" in every possible way.

[17975] No. 130.

Sir F. Villiers to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 7.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Lisbon, May 25, 1906.*

MOROCCO State Bank.

With reference to Sir F. Bertie's telegram No. 43, repeated to me in your telegram No. 5, I am in communication with French Chargé d'Affaires, and I am supporting the proposals which he had been instructed to make relative to the attendance of the Representative of Bank of Portugal at the meeting of Delegates in Madrid.

[17976] No. 131.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 56.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 25, 1906.*

THE following arrangements relative to the Morocco Bank Committee have been made by Mr. Cartwright with the Spanish Government, and approved by the French Ambassador:—

The proposal to transfer future meetings to Paris must be moved by some Power other than Spain, and will be seconded by the Spanish Delegate, who will preside at the first meeting. The Spanish President, when the proposal has been accepted, will then himself propose, and some other Delegate will second, the motion that the presidency of future meetings be given to the Governor of the Bank of France.

Mr. Cartwright has sounded Representatives of some of the smaller Powers as to their proposing the motion for the removal of the meetings to Paris. They say, however, that they cannot receive instructions in time. The Russian Delegate, however, will be authorized by his Ambassador to take the initiative, unless the Russian Government telegraphs to the contrary. In the event of a hitch arising, from which complications might ensue, I think that Mr. Cartwright, especially if he is assured of German support, should himself propose the removal to Paris, and I will authorize him to use his discretion in this matter, unless I receive contrary instructions from you.

The meeting will take place probably about 6 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

The German Delegates arrive to-night, and Mr. Cartwright will make an effort to persuade them to propose the motion themselves.

The above is urgent.

[17918] No. 132.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 18.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 25, 1906.*

WITH reference to your telegram No. 8 of the 24th instant, I am in communication with the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar as to the steps to be taken to effect the release of the "Consuelo." There should be no difficulty about taking her in tow, as I understand that she is at anchor at Castillejos, which on our maps is called Fenidak.

The Captain of the port at Gibraltar states that the vessel is British.

Sid Torres made no objection, in the conversation I had with him, to my hint that it might possibly be necessary for us to take off the vessel.

[18071] No. 133.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 86.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 14, 1906.*

IN my despatch No. 62 of the 8th ultimo I reported to you an incident which had taken place in connection with work undertaken by a M. Régis, a French citizen, for the laying of water-pipes through certain streets of Tangier to supply vessels in the bay with water.

The protest of the Makhzen still remains unanswered by the Conseil Sanitaire, but the disagreement between the Austrian and German Ministers on the one hand, and the French Minister, supported by the remaining Ministers, on the other hand, has become more acute, and I understand that the matter has been treated both in Paris and in Vienna, the Austrian Minister being at this moment the President of the Conseil Sanitaire.

I need not trouble you with all the arguments put forward during the past six months by various members of the Conseil Sanitaire, but as it is possible that you may be approached by the French or Austrian Ambassadors on the subject, I will briefly lay some of them before you.

The permission unanimously granted in October 1905 by the Conseil Sanitaire to M. Régis to open certain streets for the purpose of laying water-pipes, M. Régis undertaking to close them up again, was given on the authority of the powers granted to that body by the Sultan's Firman of the 22nd October, 1892. The paragraph referring to this point runs as follows:—

"Les Représentants des Puissances qui font à Tanger le Conseil Sanitaire nous ont fait demander par l'entremise du Ministre de France d'être chargés du nettoyage de la ville, de leur résidence, du balayage et de l'arrosage des rues, de l'enlèvement des immondices, du pavage, de la réparation, et de la construction des égouts dont on a besoin.

"Par délégation de notre Majesté nous avons confié cette mission aux Ministres des Puissances à cause des sentiments de confiance, d'amitié et de sympathie que nous éprouvons pour eux, et nous les autorisons à la remplir."

The majority of the Conseil Sanitaire were of opinion that this Firman gave them the necessary power to grant the permission in question, more especially as on previous occasions telephone and electric light posts had been placed along various streets without any special permit from the Makhzen, and the majority also argued that consistently with their dignity *vis-à-vis* of the Makhzen they could not withdraw from the position taken merely on a protest of the Moorish officials, nor could they, in justice to M. Régis, who had spent a large sum of money on purchasing pipes, &c., withdraw the permission given, neither had they any means of compensating him for his loss in the event of their doing so. The minority, consisting of the Austrian and German Ministers, having heard that M. Régis had purchased a class of piping which indicated that his ulterior motive was also to supply water to the houses in the part of the town in which he had permission to lay his pipes, maintained that by adhering to the permission granted we should be encroaching on what might eventually be a monopoly if the Sultan could ever be persuaded to grant the concession for a water supply for the town.

At a meeting of the Conseil Sanitaire held on the 11th ultimo, it was decided by a majority that the protest of Sid Mohammed Torres, referred to in my despatch No. 62 of the 8th ultimo, should be replied to by the communication of a copy of the letter addressed to M. Régis authorizing the work, and adding that the control of the streets was in the hands of the Conseil Sanitaire, who considered themselves entitled to grant this authority.

Since then a discussion has been carried on with some warmth regarding the wording of the letter to be addressed to Sid Torres; the Austrian and German Ministers maintaining that this permission would clash with the arrangement made in Paris last July between the French and German Governments to the effect that no concession would be asked for pending the Conference, and also with the decisions of the Conference itself. They desired that in the note it should be made clear that the authorization granted to M. Régis in no way implied that the Conseil Sanitaire would support him in obtaining a concession for supplying water for the town, whereas the French Minister and his other colleagues considered it sufficient merely to recall and maintain the permission granted, and to add that the Conseil Sanitaire had no intention of lending itself to an irregular extension of the permission given. ("Le Conseil entend ne pas se prêter à ce que l'autorisation donnée par lui reçoive une extension abusive").

The result consequently has so far been that the decision taken by a large majority of the Conseil Sanitaire remains a dead letter owing to the obstruction of our President, and it was under these circumstances that the French Minister has reported the matter fully to his Government, and his action has, I believe, been approved by them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18072] No. 134.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 26.)

(No. 87.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 16, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 60 of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Pretender has recently been showing more signs of activity, and there are indications that he finds his power increasing, and that he will probably pursue a more vigorous and aggressive policy than has lately been the case. The tribes friendly to the Sultan crossed the Muluya between the 2nd and 6th instant, and considerable fighting took place, the tribes burning crops and huts and killing many of the inhabitants. The Pretender drove them back with considerable loss, remaining in possession of the country between the Muluya and Sheraa.

It is now expected that the Pretender will leave Kasbah Iselouan with the object of expelling the Sultan's troops from all the territory between Kebdana and the Algerian frontier, including Saida and Oujdah.

The Pretender's expedition under Mohammed-el-Rogigi, mentioned in my despatch of the 3rd ultimo, is now at Al Kharroba (34° 50′ north latitude and 5° 25′ west longitude) on the Upper Warga, collecting contributions. The Mtiwa tribe is divided, half being partisans of the Sultan and the other half adhering to the Pretender. The latter has, however, secured the quiet behaviour of the Sultan's half of the tribe by taking many of them as hostages. But one of the Pretender's Kaïds, Dris-el-Shirgi, was recently captured, and word was sent to the Pretender that if their friends were not released, Dris-el-Shirgi would be handed to the Makhzen. The Pretender refused, and this has led to considerable fighting between the rival factions of the Mtiwa tribe.

I am informed that the Sultan has at last decided to send an expedition from Fez consisting of some 1,500 men with Maxims to Western Hiayna, to protect that district from Mohammed-el-Rogigi's force, but the Sultan must be in an embarrassing position between the desire to keep enough troops at Fez for his protection and the conviction that if he does nothing to protect the Hiayna they will side with the Pretender.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18073] No. 135.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 26.)

(No. 88.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 17, 1906.

A DISAGREEABLE incident occurred some days ago to a French party at Mehedia, a small town on the coast at the mouth of the Sebu, where for some time past the "Compagnie Marocaine" have been purchasing land and endeavouring to establish themselves.

The French Vice-Consul at Rabat, accompanied by a doctor and three civilians, arrived at the gates of the town, but were refused admittance, being met in a menacing way by the soldiers who guarded the entrance. The fact that the French Vice-Consul made himself known produced no effect, and he and his party were threatened and he even was struck. The Kaïd of the troops looked on without interfering, but later on, seeing that the party intended to camp there for the night, he sent them two tents, but placed a guard over them. The party were eventually compelled to return without entering the town.

The incident is only so far of interest that the aggressors were not on this occasion irresponsible tribesmen, but the soldiers of the Makhzen, and that the Vice-Consul went there in his official capacity to establish a post-office there.

It appears that the Beni Hassen tribe had sent word to the Governor declaring that if Europeans entered the town for the purpose of surveying, or any such operation, they would come down and plunder it; and it certainly was somewhat indiscreet of the party to choose this moment for such an expedition, when there is practically no government in that district and when a bad feeling is prevalent against Europeans.

The French Minister has endeavoured to make light of the affair, and tells me that he considers the incident as closed, as the Governor of Sale has offered excuses for the behaviour of the troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18074] No. 136.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 89.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 17, 1906.*

I HAVE the honour to state that Mr. Consul Maclean reports that a few days ago the Moorish Customs officials of Dar-el-baida completed the payment of the second year's interest on the French loan nearly two months before it was due.

This has caused some surprise to the French officials who received it, and is somewhat remarkable, considering that during the past year trade has been very bad.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18075] No. 137.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 90. Confidential.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 17, 1906.*

AN incident without any importance in itself, but as an indication of how little care the French Government takes to humour the Sultan, has recently occurred at Fez.

Attached to the French Military Mission was a Dr. Jaffary, in whom the Sultan had some confidence, and, indeed, he was the only member of the French Military Mission to whom His Majesty paid the slightest attention.

Some few months ago the French Government, on the ostensible grounds that Dr. Jaffary was suffering in health, but really because he, being of a somewhat independent character, had presumed to criticize somewhat adversely French methods in Morocco, informed him that he would be recalled and replaced by another doctor, who, indeed, arrived here some time ago.

His Majesty, feeling that he should have been consulted before such a step was taken, protested, and declined to receive the new doctor should he be sent. Dr. Jaffary therefore remains at Fez, and his would-be successor is staying here until the matter has been settled between the French and Moorish Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18076] No. 138.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 91.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 18, 1906.*

BEN SLIMAN, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, appears to have somewhat repented of the frank declaration he made to Mr. MacLeod and his colleagues at Fez with regard to the intentions of the Sultan of accepting unconditionally the General Act as signed at Algeciras. For on the days following his Excellency's declaration, as recorded in my despatch No. 79 of the 6th instant, Ben Sliman somewhat modified these statements, and endeavoured to qualify them by asserting that they merely represented his own views, and that the Sultan had not yet decided what he should do. But I think there can be no doubt that His Majesty will accept the Act when it is laid before him. His Majesty has been credited with a desire, first, to have a clause introduced postponing the coming into force of some parts of the Convention, as the country was in too rebellious a condition to make it possible to apply them, and, secondly, to have a stipulation introduced to the effect that His Majesty would be entitled to dismiss all foreign Advisers directly he considered the country was able to dispense with their services. It will, however, require but little persuasion on

M. Malmusi's part to induce His Majesty to abandon these ideas. Sid Mohammed Mokhri, who left for Fez yesterday, told me before his departure that, in his opinion, the Sultan would make no difficulty about accepting.

The Notables, who were called together at Fez last year to consider M. Saint-René Taillandier's proposals, are still detained at Fez, and expect to be consulted before His Majesty finally agrees, but it is more than probable that they will be ignored.

The only indication of popular opposition to the decisions of the Conference would seem to be on the question of the police, some of the Kaïds in the neighbourhood of the coast towns having openly declared that they would not tolerate their existence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17978] No. 139.

Sir F. Villiers to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 8.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Lisbon, May 25, 1906.*

MOROCCO State Bank.

It is impossible for the Portuguese Delegate to reach Madrid in time for the meeting to-morrow. It has, however, been agreed by the Governors of the Bank of Portugal, with the approval of the Portuguese Government, that they shall be represented, and the Portuguese vote exercised, by the Delegate of the Bank of France. The Portuguese Delegate will be able to attend the subsequent meetings.

French Chargé d'Affaires is reporting this arrangement by telegraph for the approval of his Government.

[17977] No. 140.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 57.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 25, 1906.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 56 of to-day regarding the State Bank of Morocco.

The German Ambassador, whom Mr. Cartwright has just seen, has suddenly changed his attitude. He desires that the preliminary sittings may be held in Madrid in order that the general lines of the bank statutes may be settled, but does not object to the meetings being eventually transferred to Paris.

Mr. Cartwright subsequently called on M. Cambon, and the following course was decided on between them for to-morrow's meeting:—

In the first place, the presidency for this meeting only will be offered to the Spanish Delegate. In the second place, the question will be brought up as to where the Special Committee is to meet for its deliberations. This point must, according to the text of the General Act, be decided by the Committee themselves, and not by the Governments. In the third place, it is thought that Paris will be proposed as the locality of the next meeting by the Russian Delegate. If necessary, a vote will be pressed for in regard to the question of the meeting-place. When a decision has been reached on this point, Mr. Cartwright will urge that the meeting be adjourned, leaving the question of the presidency open, as this had better be left over till the first meeting is held in the place which may be determined. In this proposal Mr. Cartwright will be supported by the three French Delegates.

Mr. Cartwright pointed out to M. de Radowitz that no mention is made in the Algeciras Convention of unanimity being necessary, and he. urged on his Excellency that questions on which differences of opinion arise must be decided by a majority vote.

M. de Radowitz replied that he must refer to his Government in regard to this point.

[18104] No. 141.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 26.)

(No. 59.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 26, 1906.*

AT the meeting of the Delegates of the banks subscribing to the Morocco Bank which took place to-day, the following procedure was strictly followed, which had been arranged after negotiations this morning between Mr. Cartwright and the French and German Ambassadors and the Spanish Minister of State.

In the general conversation which took place after preliminaries, the weight of opinion was in favour of Paris as the most convenient place for meeting of the Committee. On this point the German Delegate was most conciliatory. In order to give time for instructions to come from Berlin authorizing acceptance of Paris, Mr. Cartwright, as privately arranged, moved suspension of the sitting, which will be continued to-morrow afternoon. To-day the German Ambassador was most conciliatory, and desirous that the Committee should unanimously decide in favour of Paris.

A majority is assured for the selection of Paris at to-morrow's meeting.

The date of the next meeting will then be fixed by the Delegates.

The Governor of the Bank of France and the German Delegate will be elected President and Vice-President before the close of the meeting, and the posts of secretaries will be held by Spain and Great Britain.

[18105] No. 142.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 27.)

(No. 60.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Madrid, May 27, 1906.*

AT the resumption this afternoon of the meeting of Delegates of the Morocco Bank, reported in my telegram No. 59 of yesterday, the President inquired whether any Delegate objected to any of the places mentioned as suitable for the meeting-place of the Committee, which he proceeded to name successively. This was done on the proposal of Mr. Cartwright, after private arrangement with the German Delegate. Paris was the first city named by the President, and was unanimously adopted as the future place of meeting of the Committee, the German Delegate saying he had no objections to offer, and the Austrian Delegate following in the same sense.

The Governor of the Bank of France was unanimously elected President, the German Delegate Vice-President, and the secretaryships were given to England and Spain.

It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at the Bank of France on Wednesday afternoon, the 30th May. Information as to the hour will be sent to the British Embassy, Paris.

[18371] No. 143.

Mr. Lowther to Sir E. Grey.—(Received May 28.)

(No. 19.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 28, 1906.*

SEIZURE of the "Consuelo."

The Spanish Minister has received a telegram from the Military Governor of Ceuta to the effect that Valiente has given up to the latter the vessel and a large part of her cargo, which are now at the disposal of the British authorities.

Serious damage has been caused to the "Consuelo" by the heavy weather, but repairs are being effected to keep her afloat.

I have informed the Governor of Gibraltar of the above.

See my telegram No. 18 of the 24th instant.

[18731] No. 144

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 31.)

(No. 20.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 31, 1906.*

ON the 27th instant a French bank employé was murdered at a spot within 3 miles of Tangier. The murder took place on the beach.

Inquiries point to the probability that he fell a victim to local quarrels, and that the object of the murder was not merely robbery, but that it resulted from an attempt to capture a foreigner. No traces of the murderers have, however, yet been found.

I am informed by the French Minister that serious reparation ("des réparations éclatantes") will be demanded by the French Government.

French ships of war are shortly expected here.

The Moorish authorities have not behaved very well over the matter.

[19033] No. 145.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 2.)

(No. 93.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 26, 1906.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 49 of the 5th instant, I have the honour to report that the Italian Minister, Commendatore Malmusi, left Tangier this afternoon for Fez, on his special mission to obtain the ratification of the Sultan of the General Act of Algeciras.

M. Malmusi is accompanied by a staff of eight persons, viz., M. Carlo Sforza, Councillor of Embassy at Madrid, who was attached to the Italian Delegation at Algeciras; Count Miniscalchi Erizzo, Attaché; Captain Grillenzoni, Adjutant of brigade of Grenadiers; Lieutenant Giorgio Martin-Franklin, of the "Umberto I" Cavalry Regiment; a doctor, an interpreter, and the Minister's two sons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[19034] No. 146.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 2.)

(No. 94.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 26, 1906.*

IN my despatch No. 78 of the 5th instant, I had the honour to report that Kaïd El Gundafi had failed to obtain an audience of the Viceroy of Morocco city, and that, though he had escaped from the town, he was surrounded by hostile tribesmen.

I have ascertained that the Kaïds of Glawa and M'tuga are making great preparations to resist Gundafi if he endeavours to establish any of the new Kaïds, and he does not appear to be likely to succeed in doing so; but the forces raised will probably not keep the field long on account of the harvest.

Kaïd Gundafi left Morocco city without waiting to see the result of the negotiations in progress between the brother of Sid Fedoul Gharnit, the Grand Vizier, and Kaïd El Arbi Susi (see my despatch No. 66 of the 13th April), and report has it that he has gone to join Kaïd Anfloos in Haha, which would cause a great deal of mischief.

If Gundafi endeavours to reach his castle in the Atlas he will be prevented by a force of 500 cavalry from M'tuga.

Gundafi is trying to win over the Rahamna tribe, and the Governor of Morocco city, who has great influence over the latter, has written to them urging them to persuade Gundafi to submit, in which case no harm should befall him. The Rahamna have sent a deputation to Muley Hafid to negotiate about El Gundafi, but the result is at present unknown.

In regard to Muley Hafid's rumoured desire to become Sultan, reports from Morocco city state that in an interview which he had with my informant Muley Hafid swore that he had no wish to usurp his brother's throne. He blames his uncle, Muley Arafa, and Gundafi for trying to poison his brother's mind against him, and is very indignant at Gundafi having received permission to appoint the fifteen Kaïds.

The famine in Morocco city still continues, and though the state of affairs is less serious than it was a couple of months ago, I am informed that " every street is filled with wretches in all states of starvation."

The resolutions of the Algeciras Conference do not appear to provoke much interest except as regards the establishment of the police, which is viewed with disfavour at Mogador, and also, I understand, by Muley Hafid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER

[19069] No. 147.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 2.)

(No. 21.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, June 2, 1906.*

A BRITISH steamer is ashore between Ceuta and Tangier off Cires Point, and her crew and the men engaged in salvage are being fired at from the land by Moors.

Sid Torres has been informed, but he only undertakes to send a message to the Governor of the district, who resides at a distance from the spot where the vessel lies.

I have asked the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar if he can afford protection to the crew and salvage party.

The name of the ship is the " Craighall."

[19453] No. 148.

Note communicated to Foreign Office by M. Cambon, June 6, 1906.

Concession Régis (Eaux Potables) à Tanger.

PENDANT l'automne dernier, le Conseil Sanitaire de Tanger avait, à l'unanimité, accordé à un Français, M. Régis, l'autorisation de procéder à des travaux d'adduction d'eau potable. Ces travaux devaient être terminés le 1er Mai, 1906, et, le 7 Avril, M. Régis commençait à faire creuser des tranchées, lorsque le Pacha de Tanger intervint, à l'instigation des Légations d'Allemagne et d'Autriche, fit combler les tranchées et arrêter les ouvriers.

L'affaire fut alors portée devant le Conseil Sanitaire à la fois par M. Régis et par l'autorité Marocaine. Celle-ci prétend que, en vertu de l'autorisation du Conseil, M. Régis n'aurait eu que le droit d'amener l'eau à la plage, que ses travaux et ses préparatifs indiquaient cependant l'intention de faire une distribution d'eau potable en ville, alors que le droit d'octroyer cette Concession avait été réservé au Maroc, et que le Pacha n'avait donc pas outrepassé ses droits en arrêtant l'entreprise.

Le Ministre de France proposa au Conseil Sanitaire—

1. D'aviser le Représentant du Sultan que le Conseil décidait de maintenir l'autorisation accordée à M. Régis ;

2. De lui communiquer, en même temps, les documents qui, précisant les caractères de cette autorisation, montraient qu'elle laissait intact le droit revendiqué par le Maghzen de donner éventuellement une Concession pour l'alimentation en eau potable de la ville même de Tanger.

La proposition de M. Saint-René Taillandier fut approuvée par la majorité du Conseil le 29 Avril ; la minorité se composait des Représentants de l'Autriche et de l'Allemagne ; le Ministre de Belgique s'abstint.

Cependant, le Ministre d'Autriche, faisant valoir la thèse du Maghzen, profite de sa situation de Président du Conseil Sanitaire pour refuser de donner suite à la résolution prise par ses collègues ; l'intervention du Doyen du Corps Diplomatique est restée inutile, et a seulement valu à M. Malmusi quelques insinuations peu courtoises de la part du Comte Kodziebroski.

Le Gouvernement Français estime que la réclamation de M. Régis ne saurait être examinée ailleurs qu'à Tanger, qu'elle y a déjà été examinée par la seule autorité compétente, et que l'unique question est de savoir si, contrairement aux précédents, les décisions du Conseil Sanitaire de Tanger peuvent être mises en échec par l'opposition

d'un ou deux de ses membres. Il lui semble d'autant plus nécessaire de mettre ce point hors de toute incertitude que la Conférence d'Algésiras a conféré au Corps Diplomatique le droit de statuer, à la majorité, sur la plupart des questions soulevées par l'application des réformes. L'action collective des Puissances apparaîtrait comme vouée à l'insuccès si on admettait le renouvellement des difficultés que vient de soulever l'affaire Régis.

M. Bourgeois a fait faire, et fera, renouveler des démarches auprès du Gouvernement Austro-Hongrois pour obtenir que son Représentant à Tanger transmette au Maghzen la Résolution arrêtée par le Conseil Sanitaire de Tanger ; il serait heureux que le Gouvernement Britannique voulût bien faire appuyer ces démarches auprès du Comte Goluchowski.

[19775] No. 149.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 96.)
Sir, *Tangier, May 31, 1906.*

I REGRET to have to report that on Sunday evening last about 6 P.M. a French citizen, M. Charbonnier, a young employé of the Algerian Bank here, was murdered on the beach within three miles of Tangier, a place which for some time past has been considered one of the few safe promenades for foreigners resident in Tangier.

He was riding, and the first intimation of the occurrence was made known through his horse being found riderless.

His body was then found robbed of his watch, a ring, and a revolver, but as the Moorish authorities took the matter into their own hands at once, the French authorities were unable to make the necessary examination which might have given some clue to the calamity.

All that is known is that, as he had only been here three months and had no relations with Moors, no personal vengeance could have entered into the matter. He was found lying on the beach with a bullet wound through the head, evidently inflicted at a short range and by a person on foot.

Immediately the French Minister heard of the occurrence he asked the Moorish Commissioner to provide an escort to accompany the French Commissaire de Police to the spot, but this was only furnished at 11 P.M. In the meantime the body had been brought in, and then there was a difficulty about getting the body transported to French premises, the men of Raisuli wishing to convey it to their quarters.

The motive of the crime still remains a mystery, but the more initiated in Moorish crimes hold the belief that the murder was not committed merely for robbery but for some other motive.

The deed was committed in the territory of the Anjera. The men of that part of the tribe have a grievance against their Chief, Duas, and it is supposed that it was perhaps their intention to carry off a European in order to obtain satisfaction. It is possible that if this was attempted the victim offered some resistance, but no proof of this can now be obtained.

The French community is naturally much incensed, and the French Minister, who has reported very fully on the matter to his Government, told me last night that he had received information from his Government to the effect that they intended to demand " des réparations éclatantes."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[19776] No. 150.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 97.)
Sir, *Tangier, June 2, 1906.*

FOR some time past lithographed pamphlets have been circulating in Fez, and more especially among the Notables who were called together last year to examine the proposed reforms. Some of these have come into my hands. They consist mainly of criticisms of German policy and severe comments on the unreliability of those who carry it out.

It is believed that they are written and produced in Tripoli or Tunis ; but one of

those that has reached me from Fez was posted at Beirout, and some have come from Egypt.

Similar pamphlets were circulated last year when the German Mission was at Fez.

It is difficult to fathom the object of the distribution of these pamphlets; they can hardly be the work of French officials, whose cause would be more harmed than promoted by such propaganda.

M. Saint-René Taillandier, whom I asked about these, said that he was at a loss to establish their origin, or the object of the writer in circulating them, but he did not think they would have much effect one way or the other.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[19453] No. 151.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir E. Goschen.

(No. 49.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1906.

I TRANSMIT herewith to your Excellency copies of the papers as marked in the margin,* respecting the grant, in October last, by the Sanitary Council of Tangier, of permission to M. Régis, a French subject, to lay water-pipes through certain streets of that town for the purpose of supplying fresh water to vessels in the bay.

The permission thus granted by the Sanitary Council was given on the authority of the powers granted to that body by the Sultan's Firman of the 22nd October, 1892, of which the paragraph in point is quoted in Mr. Lowther's despatch No. 86 of the 14th ultimo.

The Makhzen, however, in December last protested against this permission being given to M. Régis, and their protest has been supported by the Austrian and German Ministers, apparently, not on the ground that the Council had no authority in such matters—which was the Moorish contention—but for the reason that M. Régis had purchased piping of such a kind as would later on put him in a position to apply for a Concession for supplying water from house to house.

Considerable discussion has since that time taken place at Tangier as to the reply which should be returned to the protest of the Makhzen.

The French Minister proposed to the Council:—

1. To inform the Sultan's Deputy that the Council are resolved to uphold the permission accorded to M. Régis.

2. To communicate to the Deputy at the same time the documents defining the nature and extent of this permission, which prove that the right claimed by the Makhzen of eventually granting a concession for the supply of drinking water to the town of Tangier is in no way affected by the present Concession to M. Régis.

It appears to His Majesty's Government that the reply proposed by the French Minister sufficiently safeguards the rights of the Moorish Government as regards the ultimate grant of a Concession for a house-to-house supply of water.

You are therefore authorized to concert with your French colleague in making a representation to the Austro-Hungarian Government, and in expressing the hope that they will instruct their Representative at Tangier to accept the answer proposed by M. Saint-René Taillandier, and forward it to the Makhzen.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[19453] No. 152.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 69.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 14, 1906.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 86 of the 14th ultimo, respecting the permission granted by the Sanitary Council of Tangier to M. Regis to lay water-pipes through certain streets of that town for the purpose of supplying fresh water to vessels in the Bay, I transmit to you copy of a Memorandum communicated by the French

* Nos. 44, 133, and 148.

Ambassador at this Court,* together with a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna on the subject.†

Although reports have from time to time reached this Office as to action of different kinds taken by the Sanitary Council, there do not appear to be any records in this Department of the rules governing the proceedings of this body. Information on this point would be of interest to me, especially in view of the present case, and I should be obliged if you would furnish me with a statement as to the constitution and procedure of the Council.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD GREY.

[20530] No. 153.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 16.)

(No. 98.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 9, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 93 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith extracts from a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting the entry into Fez of the Italian Mission under Commendatore Malmusi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 153.

Vice-Consul MacLeod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 19.)
Sir, *Fez, June* 3, 1906.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch No. 12 of the 10th May in regard to the Mission of the Italian Minister Commendatore Mulmusi, and directing me to avail myself of any occasion which might arise of placing my services at his disposal for the furtherence of the object of M. Malmusi's Mission.

Instructions of a similar tenour were received by my French and German colleagues.

This morning M. Malmusi sent each of us a note, stating that the Mission was entering in uniform about 8 o'clock.

Dr. Cerdeira, who has some position in connection with the Spanish Legation, passed the night at the Mission's camp, and in a Spanish naval undress uniform accompanied it into the city.

The French Vice-Consul in plain attire accompanied the Mission from its camp.

The Acting German Consul and I, in uniform, met the Mission just after the Minister had been greeted by the Sultan's Minister of Ceremonies and Minister of War, and accompanied it into the city. These functionaries appeared quite pleased to see us.

The morning was pleasantly cool, at least as compared with the suffocating heat of the last few days. (In that connection I may mention that the Mission had an exceedingly hot journey. During two days, in the Seboo Valley, the temperature reached 45° centigrade (113 Fahr.) in the shade. One of the soldiers of the Mission died, overcome by the heat, and M. Laredo, the interpreter of the Mission, was dangerously ill from it during one day.)

The Mission was received cordially enough by the Moorish authorities. There was certainly, however, no kind of enthusiasm, and in every respect there was a marked absence of many of the elements which can on occasion make the entry of a Mission a highly picturesque spectacle.

Nearly all the animals supplied to the Mission (mounts as well as pack animals) looked emaciated and fatigued even beyond the inevitable exhaustion of their journey.

The infantry soldiers were extremely few, not, I suppose, over 200 or so at the very most, and looked dirtier, raggeder, and "slacker" generally than I ever saw

* No. 148. † No. 151.

them. They formed only one long line on one side of the route (instead of two lines, *i.e.*, a line on each side of the road).

The bandsmen's instruments and their clothes were markedly dirty. The musters of the mounted tribesmen and of the mountaineers were extremely small, not more than a couple of hundred of each.

Of the general native public (I mean the well-dressed, well-mounted merchant classes) there was practically none. There was no crowd anywhere, and near the city gate, where the crowds are often of many thousands, there was but a straggling array of such of the idle and indigent classes as live near the neighbourhood.

Contrary to what usually happens, the bulk of shops, places of trade, and the like remained open during the entry. The usual orders for shutting were issued yesterday, of course, but apparently were not enforced as before. The cleaning and watering of the streets was both belated and but half done.

A mule carcase in the "highest" of states (which we noticed yesterday and wondered if it would be removed) lay right in the middle of the Mission's path and between the mounted tribesmen (under the Kaïd of Ceremonies) on the one hand and the Minister of War's men and the band (infantry) on the other.

In all probability the European spectators who "snap-shotted" the course of the Mission's entry have been able to preserve the scene of the Europeans (dignity giving place to their other feelings) moving along holding their noses, while the Moors, from the Master of Ceremonies downwards, with their usual impervious incorrigible optimism, seemed conscious of nothing but the usual air of a summer morning.

For such shortcomings as these one cannot but infer that the general dislike of the official classes to the object of the Mission is the real reason—a feeling they are too timid to display actively, and which thus finds vent in the way of omitting and neglecting things which, were they in a better humour, would have been attended to.

As regards the public, it must be remembered that the townspeople of all ranks have of late been too much preoccupied with the badness of trade, dearth, semi-starvation, and now the safe gathering of the almost ripe harvest to have either time or inclination spontaneously for such a holiday as taking part on such an occasion.

These rather than any feelings upon the object of the Mission, upon which, indeed, the general public continues both ignorant and apathetic, account for the fewness or the spectators and the generally inferior character of such few as did go out to meet the Mission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MacLEOD.

[20531] No. 154.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 16.)

(No. 99.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 9, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French armoured cruiser the "Jeanne d'Arc," the protected cruiser "Kléber," and the cruiser "Galilée" all arrived here in the course of the last few days in order to support the French demands in connection with the murder of the Frenchman Charbonnier.

All these vessels arrived at different times, and all omitted to salute the town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20532] No. 155.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 16.)

(No. 100.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 10, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 94 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to report that El Gundaffi having bribed several tribes, and especially the Rahamna, they consented to assist him to reach his stronghold. He eventually obtained 1,000 men, and proceeded, without any serious interruption and only little fighting, to his stronghold in the mountains. The Kaïds appointed by the Sultan went with him. This happy solution appears to have been the result of one of two things: either Gundaffi was not satisfied with the attitude of Rahamna, who refused to join him in a rebellion, saying

they would escort him to his house, reconcile him with the Viceroy, but nothing else; or, on the other hand, the Viceroy wisely decided to allow Gundaffi to return to his house and Rahamna return to their tents, thus separating the Arabs from the Shluh, who can fight it out amongst themselves if they desire.

A correspondent from Marrakesh writes that all this disturbance between the Viceroy (Muley Hafid) and Gundaffi has tended to increase the acts of lawlessness and disturbance, that no one can travel with safety in the country or leave his cattle in the open, and that the people are in great straits. No one listens to the Makhzen, and no one dares mention the name of the Makhzen, and it is considered that in the dominions of the Sultan, from Mogador to Fez, there is no Makhzen Governor remaining. This has practically put a stop to all business.

From the south I hear that such natives who take any interest at all in matters of government are quietly waiting news of the Italian Minister's Mission to Fez. They seem confident that nothing will be signed by the Sultan, he being, they consider, too weak to take any serious steps on his own authority, and his people being opposed to the decisions of the Conference.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20533] No. 156.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 16.)

(No. 101.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 10, 1906.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 98 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a further despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting the formal reception by the Sultan of the Italian Mission on the 5th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 156.

Vice-Consul MacLeod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 20.)
Sir, *Fez, June* 5, 1906.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Italian Minister, his Excellency Commendatore Malmusi, was formally received by the Sultan this morning at the Betta Gardens, with the usual ceremonial.

In the course of the forenoon I visited the Minister, when he was kind enough to give me the following particulars, for your information:—

The Minister read a short speech to the Sultan stating the object of his mission, and handed to His Majesty a letter from the King of Italy. The Sultan listened to his speech with interest, and His Majesty's reply was read by the Vizier for Foreign Affairs. It began with expressions of welcome, and then followed assurances of His Majesty's appreciation of the interest of the Powers in Morocco, and of His Majesty's intention to go through, with the Minister, fully the subjects to be discussed.

The terms of this—that is the conclusion of the Sultan's speech—sounded somewhat vague, and the Minister had not heard them to perfection. He was, however, procuring the text from the Vizier for Foreign Affairs.

The Minister then presented his staff, and the audience ended.

In just one respect his Excellency said he had departed from custom, namely, that he read his speech in Arabic himself, and throughout all passed without the services of an interpreter. The Sultan was manifestly pleased and surprised thereby.

The time for his first private audience of the Sultan, M. Malmusi concluded, had not yet been fixed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MacLEOD.

[20769] No. 157.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 18.)

(No. 102.) *Tangier, June* 11, 1906.

Sir,

I CALLED upon the French Minister on the 9th instant and informed him that I had received instructions from you to support him in the demands the French Government put forward in connection with the murder here of M. Charbonnier, and I told his Excellency I was prepared to act in the manner he thought most suitable to make that support effective. M. Saint-René Taillandier informed me that he had on the night of the 7th instant dispatched a courier to Fez with the following demands:—

The discovery, if possible, of the assassin or assassins, and, in the event of their discovery, their execution.

A public apology to be made to the French Minister by suitable authorities for allowing the present condition of anarchy here, for the general dilatoriness shown in the case, and especially for the action of the authorities on the night of the murder.

The payment of 100,000 fr. as an indemnity for the family.

The grant of a plot of land on or near the spot where M. Charbonnier met his death, on which a monument would be erected by the French Government.

It was intimated at the same time that French ships of war would be stationed here to insist on the demands being carried out.

M. Saint-René Taillandier added, in his conversation with me, that the Moorish Government had failed to keep their promise made to him some time ago, that Taib, son of Bu Amama, the Pretender's ally, should be handed over to him (see my despatches No. 4 of the 4th January and No. 47 of the 10th March), and he had recently received a letter from the Court asking for a further delay. This was an indication that the Sultan intended to evade his promises. The French Government therefore had seized this opportunity of categorically demanding that the said Taib should be handed over to the French Legation here at Tangier, safe and sound. They had further demanded the settlement of certain claims arising out of the condition of anarchy that prevails in the neighbourhood.

Besides sending these letters to the Court, M. Taillandier had paid a visit to the Moorish Commissioner, accompanied by Admiral Campion, who is here on the "Jeanne d'Arc," and the Captains of the other vessels, and had repeated verbally the demands which had been sent up to Fez.

Before leaving, the Admiral had stated to Sid Torres that he had been sent to support the demands put forward by his Government, and that if more vessels were required they would be forthcoming. The only reply made by the Commissioner was, that he was aware that this was so.

M. Saint-René Taillandier said that our Spanish and Russian colleagues had received instructions similar to mine. I pointed out to him that any verbal representations made by me in Tangier would produce little or no effect, and I observed also to him that in our action we should avoid giving the impression to the Makhzen that this was a question on which opinion in Europe was not united owing to the probable abstention of the Representatives of some of the Powers in giving similar support.

I was, however, entirely at his service, and suggested that I should instruct His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez to speak to Ben Sliman on the matter, and say that, in the opinion of His Majesty's Government, the demands put forward by the French Government were reasonable and fair, and that the Moorish Government should mark its horror of the murder and its displeasure with the conduct of their employés by immediately complying with those demands.

M. Saint-René Taillandier requested me to do nothing until he had given the matter more consideration.

After consultation with our Spanish colleague and due consideration by himself, M. Saint-René Taillandier came to the conclusion that, on the whole, the best course to pursue would be for me to speak to Sid Mohammed Torres in an unofficial manner, pointing out that the demands made by the French Government were reasonable, and expressing the hope that the Sultan would see his way to complying with them with a good grace and without delay. M. Saint-René Taillandier also asked me to instruct Mr. Vice-Consul MacLeod, on an occasion on which he might be dealing with other matters, to speak in a quite unofficial manner to Ben Sliman in the above sense. I have accordingly instructed Mr. MacLeod to do so.

He was afraid that a more formal representation made at Fez might leave the impression on the Makhzen that all the Powers were not agreed in supporting France in her demands.

I saw Sid Mohammed Torres this afternoon and spoke to his Excellency in the sense agreed upon.

I cannot say that my remarks appeared to make the slightest impression upon him except that he showed some little irritation, and said that there were criminals elsewhere and that for them one need look no further than Madrid. He seemed to think that there was little prospect of the murderers being discovered, although they must be known to many of the tribesmen, but the Makhzen was powerless, all the inhabitants of the Anghera being rebels over whom the Sultan had no authority.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20976] No. 158.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 19.)

(No. 22.) *Tangier, June* 19, 1906.

(Telegraphic.) P.

IN a private letter which he has sent me from Fez, M. Malmusi states that the Sultan will almost certainly carry out the promise which he has made to him to sign the Algeciras Convention.

M. Malmusi hopes that the Sultan's adhesion in writing will shortly be obtained.

21117] No. 159.

British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 21.)

51, *Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road,*
June 20, 1906.

Sir,

IN further reference to cases of slave-trading in Morocco, about which I had the honour to address letters to you in December and January last, I beg leave to inform you that my Committee has received information from one of its members who was recently in Tangier that a sale of slaves, among whom some white women and children were included, took place in a "fondak" in Tangier, in April last; the sale was reported in the local newspaper "Al-Moghreb-al-Aksa." I am to point out that as a "fondak" is an inclosure providing accommodation for travellers and their animals, and the drivers of caravans congregate there, it is practically a public place, in the sense that an hotel is public, and I am respectfully to ask if representations can be made to the Moorish Government that these "fondaks" should in future be regarded as public places, and that the sale of slaves should be prohibited in them as it is already, by agreement with the Moorish Government, prohibited in open markets.

The impression that such dealings in slaves have recently become more frequent and open is confirmed by some further facts which have come to the knowledge of my Committee, on the information of an Englishman who has for many years been resident in Morocco and has a thorough knowledge of the country. This informant states that, in travelling lately on a steamer up the coast of Morocco to Tangier, he saw at one of the ports 24 female slaves, adults and children, put on board his steamer, and it appeared, from inquiries which he was able to make, that of these 24, 2 were from Mogador, 2 from Saffi, and 20 from Mazagan; 18 were *en route* to Fez, presumably travelling to old or new homes under existing conditions of domestic slavery, while 6 were to be sold at Tangier. Amongst these slaves he saw some actually white children, who, he states, had in all probability been sold by their mothers in exchange for food—the famine and distress being at that time very severe.

I beg respectfully, on behalf of my Committee, to request that the attention of His Majesty's Minister at Tangier may be called to these recent instances of slave-trading, and to ask that, if possible, the information should be conveyed to the Italian

Minister now at the Court of Fez, with a view to his bringing these evils to the notice of His Majesty the Sultan, and securing his agreement to measures of reform.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TRAVERS BUXTON,
Secretary.

[21238] No. 160.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 22.)

(No. 23.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, June* 22, 1906.

ON the 18th instant the Sultan signified in an official communication his unreserved adhesion to the General Act of the Algeciras Conference.

See my immediately preceding telegram.

[21469] No. 161.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 103.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 12, 1906.

IN the month of October 1905 one of the family of brigands living in the Angera known under the name of Valiente captured two English officers, and their release was only obtained by liberating another of the same family and by complying with other conditions.

I was instructed by your predecessor to demand the punishment of the brigands, and at the same time to urge that in the future more care should be exercised with a view to preventing similar acts of brigandage.

I regret that my repeated representations in this direction have met with no result, in spite of reiterated promises made to me both while I was at Fez and afterwards here.

The Governor of Angera was in the first instance to be charged with the capture of this brigand, but Sid Torres was all along very doubtful as to whether the Makhzen had sufficient power to effect his capture, and, indeed, went so far as to say that the Makhzen were afraid of doing so for fear of its giving rise to fresh disturbances.

The Spanish Government, who also had claims against this family, had in the meantime also been urging the Makhzen to action, with a similar want of success.

The Valiente brothers have in the meanwhile been gaining in popularity and influence, and have been a constant source of trouble to the Spanish authorities at Ceuta, and latterly again distinguished themselves by the capture of the British sailing vessel the "Consuelo" (see my despatch No. 92 of the 23rd ultimo).

The Valiente family have during the course of the winter made several efforts to obtain a pardon from the Spanish Government by sending emissaries who were to approach the Spanish Minister here, and even, I believe, sent one to Algeciras, but all without result.

To my surprise I heard a few days ago that peace had been made between that family and the Governor of Ceuta, and I asked my Spanish colleague what explanation he could give me of this. He replied that the news had also caused him some astonishment, and he had called upon the Governor to explain. The latter admitted that the Valientes had been forgiven for their misdeeds, and merely stated that their hostile attitude caused so much inconvenience to the inhabitants of Ceuta, who were unable to leave the town, and had rendered the road to Tetuan unsafe, that he had decided that it was more politic to make friends with these brigands than to be perpetually harassed by them.

I do not know if this step was taken with the knowledge and approval of the Spanish Government, but it would not seem to be very regular.

I understand from the Moorish Commissioner that the Valientes have granted a concession to some Spaniards of Ceuta for the working of an antimony or nickel mine at Fenidak, near Ceuta, and that they find a ready sale in that town for the cattle they rob in the neighbouring country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[21470] No. 162.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 104.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 13, 1906.

I HAD the honour to receive in due course your despatch No. 53 of the 17th ultimo, on the subject of the decision of the Algeciras Conference to refer to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier the question of the liquor traffic in Morocco.

The Spanish Minister had in the meantime communicated this decision to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body here, and with the sanction of that body it was decided that the French, Spanish, and German Ministers and myself should be named as a Commission to discuss the subject and draw up regulations for the consideration of the whole Diplomatic Body. Beyond this nothing has been done, and none of these gentlemen have received any instructions on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[21472] No. 163.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 25.)

(No. 106.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 14, 1906.

UPON receipt of your despatch No. 57 of the 22nd ultimo I addressed a letter to M. Saint-René Taillandier, who, in the absence at Fez of the Italian Minister, is doyen of the Corps Diplomatique here, quoting the declaration regarding slavery read by Sir A. Nicolson to the Conference at Algeciras, and pointing out that this Declaration had been adopted by all the Delegates except the Moors, and requesting him to be good enough to take the opinion of our colleagues as to the best means of bringing the matter to the notice of the Sultan with a view to the adoption of more rigorous measures for the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

After an exchange of views between the foreign Representatives it was decided that advantage should be taken of the Mission of the Italian Minister to the Shereefian Court to lay the matter before the Sultan, and urge the adoption of the necessary measures.

I beg leave to transmit herewith copy of the letter which M. Saint-René Taillandier has addressed to Commendatore Malmusi in the name of the foreign Representatives here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 163.

M. Saint-René Taillandier to M. Malmusi.

Tanger, le , 1906.

M. le Doyen et cher Collègue,

VOTRE Excellence n'a pas oublié que, dans une séance de la Conférence à Algésiras, le Délégué Anglais a donné lecture de la déclaration suivante:—

"Je me permets de soumettre à la Conférence une suggestion que les honorables Délégués veuillent bien exprimer un vœu auprès de Sa Majesté Chérifienne pour qu'elle daigne prendre en considération la question d'esclavage dans son Empire, et adopter de telles mesures que Sa Majesté croirait être opportunes pour limiter et graduellement abolir le système d'esclavage et surtout pour défendre la vente publique des esclaves dans les villes de son Empire."

Cette déclaration, vous le savez, a reçu l'approbation de tous les Délégués sauf les Marocains.

Son Excellence M. le Ministre d'Angleterre m'ayant demandé de prendre l'opinion de mes honorables collègues sur la manière de faire parvenir à Sa Majesté Chérifienne l'expression des sentiments manifestés dans cette déclaration, nous avons tous pensé, sur ma proposition, qu'il vous appartenait d'y pourvoir. Je viens donc prier votre Excel-

lence, au nom de tous nos collègues comme au mien, de vouloir bien présenter à Sa Majesté le Sultan et recommander à toute sa bienveillante attention le vœu formulé dans la déclaration ci-dessus.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) G. SAINT-RENÉ TAILLANDIER.

[21473] No. 164.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 25.)

(No. 107.) *Tangier, June* 15, 1906.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 86 of the 14th ultimo, on the subject of the permission given by the "Conseil Sanitaire" to M. Régis, a French citizen, to lay water pipes through certain streets of the town with a view to supplying water to vessels in the bay, I have the honour to report that the foreign Representatives, who are the members of the "Conseil Sanitaire," have at length agreed upon the wording of the note to be addressed to the Moorish Commissioner in reply to his protest.

A copy of this note and its inclosure is transmitted herewith.

It has required four months for my colleagues to come to an agreement as to the wording of a note to be addressed to the Moorish Commissioner on a comparatively unimportant matter.

This does not augur well for the expedition that will be shown in dealing with the framing of the various Regulations with which the Conference at Algeciras has charged us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 164.

"Conseil Sanitaire" to Sid Torres.

Tanger, le 12 *Juin*, 1906.

(Compliments.)

NOUS avons reçu en son temps votre lettre du 18 Février dernier, et nous vous informons que le Conseil Sanitaire, justement en vertu du mandat qui lui a été confié par Sa Majesté Chérifienne par le Firman de la fin du Rabia I, 1310, a autorisé le sieur Régis à entreprendre les travaux requis (nécessaires) pour la conduite d'un cours d'eau potable à travers la ville de Tanger depuis un terrain dont il dispose aux environs de la ville jusqu'à la mer pour pourvoir aux besoins des bateaux se trouvant en rade.

Mais il est bien entendu que par ce simple permis de voirie nous n'avons nullement préjugé le droit de concession que Sa Majesté Chérifienne s'est réservé expressément en Décembre 1900. Vous trouverez, d'ailleurs, ci-joint la traduction intégrale de la lettre que le Conseil Sanitaire a adressée à M. Régis le 18 Octobre.

Par la lecture de ce document le Gouvernement Chérifien pourra se convaincre que son droit de concession demeure intact, puisque l'autorisation en cause ne comporte aucun privilège. Le Conseil ne doute pas que tout malentendu étant ainsi écarté, les autorités Chérifiennes respecteront dorénavant les décisions prises par lui dans la limite de ses attributions en matière de voirie. Paix, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 164.

"Conseil Sanitaire" to M. Régis.

Tanger, le 18 *Octobre*, 1905.

EN conséquence des propositions contenues dans votre lettre à MM. les membres du Conseil Sanitaire, en date du 29 Août, je suis chargé par le Conseil Sanitaire de vous autoriser à entreprendre les travaux requis pour la conduite d'un cours d'eau potable à travers la ville de Tanger depuis un terrain dont vous disposez aux environs

de la ville jusqu'à la mer, pour pourvoir aux besoins des bateaux se trouvant en rade aux conditions suivantes :—

1. Les travaux seront terminés en plus tard le 1er Mai, 1906; passée cette date vous serez passible d'une amende de 25 pesetas par jour.

2. Une caution de 2,000 pesetas sera déposée par vous à la caisse du Conseil Sanitaire pour garantir les frais de repavage et la mise en état des chemins sur le parcours des conduits d'eau, au cas où les travaux seraient arrêtés avant leur achèvement.

3. Si, pour la pose des conduits d'eau, il était nécessaire d'entraver ou de déplacer la canalisation des égoûts ou quelques autres ouvrages souterrains, il est entendu que, vous vous mettant d'accord avec la Commission d'Hygiène, les travaux qui en résulterait seraient entièrement à votre charge.

4. Il est entendu que l'autorisation qui vous est accordée ne constituera en aucune façon un monopole en votre faveur et ne préjugera pas des concessions qui dans la suite pourraient être estimées utiles ou nécessaires pour l'adduction des eaux à Tanger.

Vous voudrez bien me confirmer la réception de la présente lettre, en formulant de votre côté les engagements auxquels vous vous soumettrez conformément aux propositions précédemment faites par vous et les conditions stipulées ci-dessus.

(Signé) BACHERACHT.

[21475] No. 165.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 25.)

(No. 109.) *Tangier, June* 16, 1906.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez, reporting a conversation he had had with the Italian Minister, who was good enough to communicate to him an account of his first private audience with the Sultan.

His Majesty stated that he had carefully studied the Arabic translation of the General Act and had decided to accept it, as he considered it good, but that His Majesty wished for some explanations on certain points.

Commendatore Malmusi informed Mr. Vice-Consul MacLeod that, while satisfied with the disposition shown by the Sultan, he could not be confident as to the success of his mission until His Majesty's signature to the form of adherence had actually been obtained, and that even then great difficulty would be experienced in putting the reforms into execution.

There can, I fear, be no doubt that M. Malmusi's forecast will prove correct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 165.

Vice-Consul MacLeod to Mr. Lowther.

(No. 22. Confidential.) *Fez, June* 10, 1906.

Sir,

THE Italian Minister did me the honour to call here this forenoon and stated that he had come to communicate the following for your Excellency's information :—

M. Malmusi said he had his first business audience of the Sultan yesterday. He was accompanied by his dragoman, and the Vizier of Foreign Affairs was with the Sultan.

The Minister briefly stated that he had been deputed by the Powers to invite His Majesty's adherence to the General Act of the Algeciras Conference, an Arabic version of which Act had been forwarded for His Majesty's information.

His Majesty answered that he had received the Arabic version of the General Act, and, in conjunction with his Ministers, had studied it carefully. They had decided it was all very good, and so His Majesty had concluded to adhere to it.

M. Malmusi expressed warm thanks for this announcement, and then said he would like to converse privately with His Majesty.

The Vizier for Foreign Affairs and M. Malmusi's dragoman then withdrew.

M. Malmusi then proceeded to say that in sending him to invite the Sultan's adherence to the Algeciras General Act the Powers meant to show their very particular regard for His Majesty, and their concern in the welfare of his country.

His Majesty expressed his entire appreciation of and thanks for what the Powers had done.

M. Malmusi then proceeded to say that under these circumstances he hoped there would be no unavoidable delay in His Majesty's assenting to the General Act; the Conference had been assembled at His Majesty's request, and it would produce an unfavourable impression abroad if now any hesitation were shown on His Majesty's part to assenting to the conclusions to which the Conference had come.

The Sultan answered that he quite understood this. There were, however, certain points in the General Act as to which, in the course of the Minister's visit, he would be glad to have explanations.

M. Malmusi answered that he would be happy to give full explanations on any points which His Majesty might indicate, it being clearly understood, of course, that he (M. Malmusi) could not discuss anything in the way of any alteration of the terms of the General Act.

The Sultan thanked M. Malmusi for this assurance, and said he quite understood that M. Malmusi could not treat of any alteration of the terms of the General Act.

M. Malmusi then said he had prepared a draft form for the Sultan's consideration, which he thought would express the Sultan's assent to the General Act in a clear and convenient manner.

The Sultan replied that he would be glad to have this draft form.

M. Malmusi then read and handed to His Majesty this draft form which His Majesty received pleasantly and said he would consider.

M. Malmusi then took leave, and the audience ended.

M. Malmusi has not communicated to me the terms of the above-named draft form, but his Excellency alluded to it as a "Dahir," which, in Moorish Arabic, means "Letters Patent," "decree," "Firman," "Shereefian letter under the Sultan's seal."

That of a "Dahir" was the form in which the Sultan's assent was given to the additional Treaty Articles between France and Morocco, dated the 26th May, 1825, and to the Commercial Agreement between France and Morocco of the 24th October, 1892.

M. Malmusi, while thinking that the disposition shown by the Sultan augured favourably for the happy conclusion of his mission, was careful to say that he hoped, in view of the fickleness of the Sultan and his advisers, that no more importance would be attached by others than by himself to what had passed, for, added his Excellency, "One can never be sure of these people until they have actually signed. Even then, in this case, I feel sure that getting these reforms put into execution will be matter of continual and serious difficulty."

M. Malmusi remarked that he was making a similar communication to this to my French and German colleagues, for in this mission he considered he represented all our nations, and so he meant to keep us duly informed, for our Minister's knowledge, of the course of events.

I thanked his Excellency warmly for these expressions, and assured him I would communicate to you fully and promptly all he had told me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[21582] No. 166.

Sir E. Goschen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 25.)

(No. 75.) *Vienna, June* 20, 1906.

Sir,

ON the receipt of your despatch No. 49 on the subject of the grant by the Sanitary Council of Tangier of permission to M. Régis to carry water-pipes through certain streets of that town, I immediately called upon my French colleague and informed him that I had been authorized by you to concert with him in making a representation on the subject to the Austro-Hungarian Government, and in expressing

the hope that they would instruct their Representative at Tangier to accept the answer proposed by M. René Taillandier and forward it to the Maghzen.

The Marquis de Reverseaux, while expressing his gratification that I had been authorized to act with him, informed me that he had already been in communication with Count Goluchowski on the subject, who had stated that he had himself scarcely understood Count Kodziebroski's line of action in the matter, and had called upon him to furnish an explanatory report. M. de Reverseaux added that he had pressed his Excellency, now that he had the facts before him, not to wait for the report, but to send Count Kodziebroski immediate instructions to yield to the decision of the majority of the Council. Count Goluchowski, however, replied that he was expecting Count Kodziebroski's reply very shortly, and that he would prefer to wait until he received it before taking action.

Under these circumstances, M. de Reverseaux proposed to wait for a further communication from Count Goluchowski before asking me to support his representations.

Yesterday evening I received a message from M. de Reverseaux, saying that Count Goluchowski had just informed him that an understanding had been arrived at by the Sanitary Council at Tangier, and that the incident was satisfactorily settled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. E. GOSCHEN.

[21847] No. 167.

Count de Bosdari to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 27.)

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Italian Embassy, London, June* 22, 1906.

I AM directed by my Government to inform your Excellency that, according to a telegram from Commendatore Malmusi, dated from Fez, of the 18th July [*sic*], which has been received at Rome, it appears that he had on that day received from the Sultan of Morocco an Imperial Rescript bearing the Shereefian seal, by which the General Act of Algeciras is accepted and ratified.

Commendatore Malmusi, having thus completed his mission, will leave again for Tangier as soon as he has paid and received the customary visits, bringing with him the original of the Imperial Rescript.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. DE BOSDARI.

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